

## ON THE FUNCTIONAL EQUATION $f^n = e^{P_1} + \dots + e^{P_m}$ AND RIGIDITY THEOREMS FOR HOLOMORPHIC CURVES

BY YOJI NODA

### Introduction and statement of results

For each positive integer  $N$  we set

$$E_N = \{e^{P_1} + \dots + e^{P_m} \mid P_j \in \mathcal{C}[z], \deg P_j \leq N, 0 = 1, \dots, m, m \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

In 1929 J. F. Ritt [4] showed the following theorem.

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $g_0, g_1, \dots, g_n$  be elements of  $E_1$  and  $f$  be a holomorphic function on  $\{z; \omega_1 < \arg z < \omega_2\}$  ( $\omega_2 - \omega_1 > \pi$ ) satisfying  $g_n f^n + g_{n-1} f^{n-1} + \dots + g_0 = 0$ . Then  $f \in E_1$ .*

It seems to be natural to ask whether Theorem A is valid with  $E_1$  replaced by  $E_N$  ( $N \geq 2$ ). However, if  $g_n \neq 1$ , the function  $f(z) = \sin(\pi z^2) / \sin \pi z$  gives a negative answer to the above question.

Let  $g: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_m$  be a holomorphic curve of finite order,  $D_0, D_1, \dots, D_{m-1}$  be hyperplanes and  $D_m$  be a hypersurface of degree  $n$  ( $\geq 2$ ) satisfying  $D_0 \cap \dots \cap D_{m-1} \cap D_m = \emptyset$ ,  $g(\mathcal{C}) \cap (D_0 \cup \dots \cup D_m) = \emptyset$ . We ask whether the image of  $g$  is contained in the intersection of hypersurfaces of  $\mathcal{P}_m$ . This problem is related to the functional equation  $f^n + g_{n-1} f^{n-1} + \dots + g_0 = 0$  ( $g_0, \dots, g_{n-1} \in E_N$ ) for an entire function  $f$ . M. Green [1] treated the first non-trivial case  $f^2 = e^{2\varphi_1} + e^{2\varphi_2} + e^{2\varphi_3}$  ( $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3 \in \mathcal{C}[z]$ ) and showed that  $f$  is a linear combination of  $e^{\varphi_1}, e^{\varphi_2}, e^{\varphi_3}$ . He also showed that, if  $g: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_2$  is a holomorphic curve of finite order omitting the two lines  $\{Z_0 = 0\}$  and  $\{Z_1 = 0\}$  and the conic  $\{Z_0^2 + Z_1^2 + Z_2^2 = 0\}$ , then the image of  $g$  lies in a line or a conic ([1]).

In this paper we shall show the following results.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $P_1, \dots, P_m$  be polynomials,  $N = \max_j \deg P_j$ ,  $N \geq 2$ ,  $A_j = P_j^{(N)}(0) / N!$  ( $j=1, \dots, m$ ),  $n$  ( $\geq 2$ ) be an integer and  $f$  be a holomorphic function on  $\{z; \omega_1 < \arg z < \omega_2\}$  ( $\omega_2 - \omega_1 > \pi/N$ ). Assume that  $\#\{j \mid A_j = v, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$  for every vertex  $v$  of the convex hull of  $\{A_j\}_{j=1}^m$ , and that  $f^n = e^{P_1} + \dots + e^{P_m}$  on  $\{z; \omega_1 < \arg z < \omega_2\}$ . Then  $f$  is an element of  $E_N$ .*

---

Received April 5, 1991 Revised November 16, 1992.

THEOREM 2. Let  $f$  be an entire function,  $n(\geq 2)$  be an integer and  $P_1, \dots, P_4$  be polynomials satisfying that  $\sum_{j \in J} e^{P_j} \neq 0$  for every subset  $J \subset \{1, \dots, 4\}$  with  $J \neq \emptyset$  and that  $P_j - P_k \neq \text{const.}$  for some  $j \neq k$ . Assume that  $f^n = e^{P_1 + \dots + e^{P_4}}$ . Then there are the following two possibilities:

- (1)  $n=2, 3$  and  $f = e^P + e^Q$ , where  $P, Q$  are polynomials.
- (2)  $n=2$  and  $f = e^P R(e^Q)$ , where  $P, Q$  are polynomials and  $R(w) = w^2 + \sqrt{2}\sigma w - \sigma^2$  with  $\sigma \neq 0$ .

In Theorem 2 the vertices of the convex hull of  $\{A_j\}_{j=1}^4$  do not necessarily satisfy the assumption of Theorem 1. For example,  $A_1, \dots, A_4$  can be on the line segment  $\{\alpha + x(\beta - \alpha) \mid 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$  and satisfy  $\#\{j; A_j = \alpha\} = 1, \#\{j; A_j = \beta\} = 2$ . In this case, however, it is verified that, if  $A_j = A_k$ , then  $P_j - P_k = \text{const.}$  In Section 2 we prove a more general result (Theorem 5). From Theorem 2 we obtain the following theorems.

THEOREM 3. Let  $g: \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_2$  be a holomorphic curve of finite order,  $D_0, D_1$  be distinct lines and  $D_2$  be a conic. Assume that  $D_0 \cap D_1 \cap D_2 = \emptyset, g(\mathbf{C}) \cap (D_0 \cup D_1 \cup D_2) = \emptyset$ . Then there is a homogeneous polynomial  $Q(w_0, w_1, w_2)$  of degree at most three satisfying  $g(\mathbf{C}) \subset \{Q(w_0, w_1, w_2) = 0\}$ .

THEOREM 4. Let  $g: \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_3$  be a nonconstant holomorphic curve of finite order satisfying  $g(\mathbf{C}) \cap (\{w_0 = 0\} \cup \{w_1 = 0\} \cup \{w_2 = 0\} \cup \{w_0^n + \dots + w_3^n = 0\}) = \emptyset$ , where  $n (\geq 2)$  is an integer. Then there are homogeneous polynomials  $Q_1(w_0, \dots, w_3), Q_2(w_0, \dots, w_3)$  which are relatively prime to each other and satisfy  $1 \leq \deg Q_1 \leq 2, 1 \leq \deg Q_2 \leq 4$  and  $g(\mathbf{C}) \subset (\{Q_1(w_0, \dots, w_3) = 0\} \cap \{Q_2(w_0, \dots, w_3) = 0\})$ . Further if  $n \geq 4$ , then  $g$  has the reduced representation  $(g_0, g_1, g_2, g_3)$  such that  $\{g_j\}_{j=0}^3 = \{a_0, a_1, a_2, e^P\}$  or  $\{g_j\}_{j=0}^3 = \{a_0, a_1, a_2 e^P, a_3 e^P\}$ , where  $a_j$ 's are constants and  $P$  is a polynomial.

The order  $p$  of a holomorphic curve  $g: \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_m$  is defined by  $p = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} (\log T(r, g) / \log r)$ , where  $T(r, g)$  is the characteristic function of  $g$ . (Let  $(g_0, g_1, \dots, g_m)$  be a reduced representation of  $g$ . Then we define  $T(r, g) = (1/2\pi) \int_0^{2\pi} \log(\max_j |g_j(re^{i\theta})|) d\theta - \log(\max_j |g_j(0)|)$ .)

Remark. In Theorem 3 we cannot conclude that the degree of  $Q(w_0, w_1, w_2)$  is at most two, since the curve  $(1, e^z, (1+e^z)e^{z/2})$  satisfies the assumption of Theorem 3 with  $D_0 = \{w_0 = 0\}, D_1 = \{w_1 = 0\}, D_2 = \{w_2^2 - w_0 w_1 - 2w_1^2 = 0\}$ . (In this case  $Q(w_0, w_1, w_2) = w_2^2 w_0 - (w_0 + w_1)^2 w_1$  and the image lies neither in a line nor in a conic.)

### 1. Proof of Theorem 1.

For each  $\theta \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbf{C}$ , the polynomials  $P_1(e^{i\theta} z) + \alpha z^N, \dots, P_m(e^{i\theta} z) + \alpha z^N$  satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem 1 with  $/$  replaced by  $f(e^{i\theta} z)e^{(\alpha/n)z^N}$ . There-

fore we may assume that  $\omega_1 < 0 < \omega_2$  and that the following condition (A) is satisfied.

(A)  $n(\geq 2)$  is an integer,  $P_1, \dots, P_m$  are polynomials,  $P_j - P_k \neq \text{const.}$  ( $j \neq k$ ),  $N = \max_j \deg P_j$ ,  $N \geq 2$ ,  $A_j = P_j^{(N)}(0)/N!$  ( $j=1, \dots, m$ ),  $U$  is the convex hull of  $\{A_1, \dots, A_m\}$ ,  $\{A_1, \dots, A_t\}$  is the set of the vertices of  $U$ ,  $t \geq 2$ ,  $\arg(A_1 - c) < \arg(A_2 - c) < \dots < \arg(A_t - c) < \arg(A_1 - c) + 2\pi$  for all  $c \in (\mathbb{R} - \{A_1, \dots, A_t\})$ ,  $\text{Re } A_1 = \text{Re } A_2$ ,  $\text{Im } A_2 > \text{Im } A_1$  and  $U \subset \{z; \text{Re } z \leq \text{Re } A_1\}$ .

For each  $\nu \in \{1, \dots, t\}$ , let  $\{p_{\nu, j}\}_j$  be the set of polynomials of degree at most  $N$  defined by

$$\exp(P_\nu/n) \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \gamma_j \left( \sum_{\mu \in \{1, \dots, m\} - \{\nu\}} \exp(P_\mu - P_\nu)^j \right) \right) \equiv \sum_j \exp(p_{\nu, j}), \tag{1.1}$$

$$p_{\nu, j} - p_{\nu, k} \neq \text{const.} \quad (j \neq k), \quad \text{Im}(p_{\nu, j}(0)) \in [0, 2\pi),$$

where  $1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \gamma_j w^j$  is the Taylor expansion of  $(1+w)^{1/n}$  ( $|w| < 1$ ). Put

$$a_{\nu, j} = p_{\nu, j}^{(N)}(0)/N!, \tag{1.2}$$

$$S_\nu = \{z \mid \arg((A_{\nu+1} - A_\nu)/n) \leq \arg(z - (A_\nu/n)) \leq \arg((A_{\nu-1} - A_\nu)/n)\} \cup \{A_\nu/n\}$$

$$(A_0 = A_t, \nu = 1, \dots, t-1), \tag{1.3}$$

$$S_t = \{z \mid \arg((A_1 - A_t)/n) \leq \arg(z - (A_t/n)) \leq \arg((A_{t-1} - A_t)/n)\} \cup \{A_t/n\}$$

(see Figure 1 and 2).

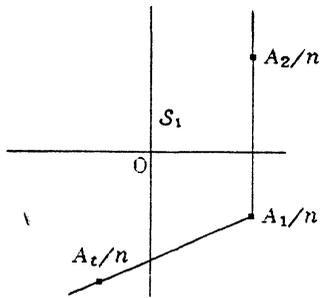


Fig. 1.

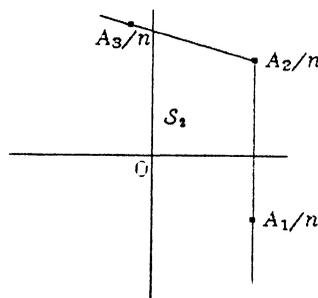


Fig. 2.

Put

$$H_1 = \{z \mid \text{Re } z < 0\} \cup i\mathbb{R}^+, \quad \text{Int} = \{z \mid \text{Re } z < 0\} \cup i\mathbb{R}^-,$$

where  $i\mathbb{R}^+ = \{ix \mid x > 0\}$ ,  $i\mathbb{R}^- = \{ix \mid x < 0\}$ . For  $\theta \in (0, \pi/2)$  and  $d > 0$ , we set

$$G_1(\theta, d) = \{z \mid 0 < \arg z < \theta, \text{Im } z > d\},$$

$$G_2(\theta, d) = \{z \mid 0 > \arg z > -\theta, \text{Im } z < -d\}.$$

Further we denote by

$$C(p)$$

the leading coefficient of a polynomial  $p$ . Note that  $C(p) = 0$  if and only if  $p = 0$ .

LEMMA 1.1. *Let  $p_1, \dots, p_m$  be polynomials satisfying  $C(p_j) \in H_1 (j=1, \dots, m)$  or  $C(p_j) \in H_2 (j=1, \dots, m)$  and  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$  be positive numbers. Then  $\deg(\lambda_1 p_1 + \dots + \lambda_m p_m) = \max_j \deg p_j$ , and  $C(\lambda_1 p_1 + \dots + \lambda_m p_m) \in H_1$  or  $C(\lambda_1 p_1 + \dots + \lambda_m p_m) \in H_2$  respectively.*

*proof.* Assume that  $C(p_j) \in H_1 (j=1, \dots, m)$ . Put  $D = \max_j \deg p_j$ ,  $J = \{j; \deg p_j = D, j=1, \dots, m\}$ ,  $c = \sum_{j \in J} \lambda_j C(p_j)$ . Then we have  $c \in H_1$ . Further  $\lambda_1 p_1 + \dots + \lambda_m p_m = cz^D + q(z)$ , where  $q$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $D-1$ . Thus  $\deg(\lambda_1 p_1 + \dots + \lambda_m p_m) = D = \max_j \deg p_j$ ,  $C(\lambda_1 p_1 + \dots + \lambda_m p_m) = c \in H_1$ .

Let  $\nu \in \{1, 2\}$  be fixed. When polynomials  $p, q$  satisfy  $C(p-q) \in H_\nu$ , we write  $p <_\nu q$ . Then, by Lemma 1.1,  $(\mathcal{C}[z], <_\nu)$  is an ordered set. Further, if  $p \neq q$ , then  $p <_\nu q$  or  $q <_\nu p$ . Therefore  $(\mathcal{C}\mathcal{M}, <_1), (\mathcal{C}\mathcal{M}, <_2)$  are totally ordered sets. Hence we have the following

LEMMA 1.2. *Let  $\Pi (\neq \emptyset)$  be a finite subset of  $\mathcal{C}\mathcal{M}$ . Then there are  $p_1, p_2 \in \Pi$  such that  $C(p-p_1) \in H_1$  for every  $p \in \Pi - \{p_1\}$  and that  $C(p-p_2) \in H_2$  for every  $p \in \Pi - \{p_2\}$ .*

LEMMA 1.3. *Let  $p$  be a polynomial of degree  $N (\geq 1)$ .*

(1) // *Re  $C(p) < 0$ , then there are positive numbers  $K, \theta, R$  such that*

$$|\exp p(z)| < \exp(-K'|z|^N) \quad \text{on } \{z; |\arg z| < \theta, |z| > R\}.$$

(2) //  *$C(p) \in i\mathbf{R}^+$ , then there are positive numbers  $K', \theta', d'$  such that*

$$|\exp p(z)| < \exp(-K'|\operatorname{Im} z| |z|^{N-1}) \quad \text{on } G_1(\theta', d').$$

(3) //  *$C(p) \in i\mathbf{R}^-$ , then there are positive numbers  $K'', \theta'', d''$ , such that*

$$|\exp p(z)| < \exp(-K''|\operatorname{Im} z| |z|^{N-1}) \quad \text{on } G_2(\theta'', d'').$$

*Proof.* We shall prove only (2). Put  $C(p) = iA (A > 0)$ ,  $q(z) = p(z) - iAz^N$ . Then for  $\zeta \in (0, \pi/4)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\exp(p(z))| &= |\exp(iAz^N + q(z))| = |\exp(iA(x^N + iNyx^{N-1} + \dots + (iy)^N) + q(z))| \\ &< \exp(-ANyx^{N-1}(1 + O(y/x)) + B|z|^{N-1}) \quad \text{on } \{|\arg z| < \zeta\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $B$  is a positive constant and  $z = x + iy$ . Thus we have the desired result.

LEMMA 1.4. Let  $m$  be a positive integer and  $\Delta(\neq 0)$  be a subset of  $(\mathcal{N} \cup \{0\})^m$ . Then there exist  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\tau \in \Delta$  ( $\tau < \infty$ ) such that  $\Delta \subset \{\alpha_j + \beta \mid j=1, \dots, \tau, \beta \in (\mathcal{N} \cup \{0\})^m\}$ .

*Proof.* By induction on  $m$ . For  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \in (\mathcal{N} \cup \{0\})^q$  ( $p, q \in \mathcal{N}$ ) we set

$$\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \rangle = \{\alpha_j + \beta \mid j=1, \dots, p, \beta \in (\mathcal{N} \cup \{0\})^q\}.$$

Further for  $\alpha = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_q) \in (\mathcal{N} \cup \{0\})^q$  and  $\lambda \in \mathcal{N} \cup \{0\}$ , we denote by  $(\alpha, \lambda)$  the element  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_q, \lambda)$  of  $(\mathcal{N} \cup \{0\})^{q+1}$ . It is easily seen that Lemma 1.4 holds for  $m=1$ . Assume that Lemma 1.4 holds for  $m=\nu$ . Let  $J$  be a subset of  $(\mathcal{N} \cup \{0\})^{\nu+1}$  satisfying the assumption with  $m$  replaced by  $\nu+1$ . Put

$$\tilde{\Delta} = \{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\nu) \mid (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{\nu+1}) \in J\}.$$

Then, by the induction assumption, there exist  $\tilde{\alpha}_1, \dots, \tilde{\alpha}_\rho \in \tilde{\Delta}$  ( $\rho \in \mathcal{N}$ ) such that

$$\tilde{\Delta} \subset \langle \tilde{\alpha}_1, \dots, \tilde{\alpha}_\rho \rangle.$$

Let

$$\lambda^{(j)} = \min \{\lambda_{\nu+1} \mid (\tilde{\alpha}_j, \lambda_{\nu+1}) \in \tilde{\Delta}\} \quad (j=1, \dots, \rho),$$

$$M = \max_j \lambda^{(j)},$$

$$\Delta^{(\sigma)} = \{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\nu) \mid (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\nu, \sigma) \in \tilde{\Delta}\} \quad (\sigma=0, 1, \dots, M).$$

Then, for every  $\sigma \in \{0, 1, \dots, M\}$ , there exist  $\alpha_1^{(\sigma)}, \dots, \alpha_{\rho_\sigma}^{(\sigma)} \in \Delta^{(\sigma)}$  ( $\rho_\sigma \in \mathcal{N} \cup \{0\}$ ) such that

$$\Delta^{(\sigma)} \subset \langle \alpha_1^{(\sigma)}, \dots, \alpha_{\rho_\sigma}^{(\sigma)} \rangle \quad (\sigma=0, 1, \dots, M).$$

Let  $\alpha = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{\nu+1}) \in \tilde{\Delta}$ . Then  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\nu) \in \tilde{\Delta}$ . Thus for some  $j$  we have  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\nu) \in \langle \tilde{\alpha}_j \rangle$ . Therefore, if  $\lambda_{\nu+1} \geq M$ , then  $\alpha \in \langle (\tilde{\alpha}_j, \lambda^{(j)}) \rangle$ . If  $\lambda_{\nu+1} \leq M$ , then  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\nu) \in \Delta^{(\lambda_{\nu+1})}$ . Thus for some  $j$  we have  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\nu) \in \langle \alpha_j^{(\lambda_{\nu+1})} \rangle$ . Therefore  $\alpha \in \langle (\alpha_j^{(\lambda_{\nu+1})}, \lambda_{\nu+1}) \rangle$ . Put

$$\alpha_j = (\tilde{\alpha}_j, \lambda^{(j)}) \quad (j=1, \dots, \rho),$$

$$\alpha_{\sigma, j} = (\alpha_j^{(\sigma)}, \sigma) \quad (0=1, \dots, \rho_\sigma, \sigma=0, \dots, M).$$

Then  $\alpha_j \in \Delta$  ( $0=1, \dots, \rho$ ),  $\alpha_{\sigma, j} \in \Delta$  ( $0=1, \dots, \rho_\sigma, \sigma=0, \dots, M$ ) and

$$\Delta \subset \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\rho, \alpha_{0,1}, \dots, \alpha_{M, \rho_M} \rangle.$$

Lemma 1.4 is thus proved.

LEMMA 1.5. Assume that (A) holds. Then  $\{a_{\nu, j}\}_{j \in \mathcal{S}(\nu=1, \dots, t)}$ . Further if  $\# \{j \mid A_\nu = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$ , then  $\{a_{\nu, j}\}_j$  has no finite accumulation point.

*Proof.* We shall give the proof only for  $\nu=1$ . From (1.1)-(1.3) we have

$$\{a_{1,j}\}_j \subset \{(A_1/n) + \sum_{j \neq 1} \lambda_j (A_j - A_1); \lambda_j \in \mathbf{N} \cup \{0\}\} \subset \mathcal{S}_1.$$

Further if  $\#\{j; A_1 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$ , then  $A_j - A_1 \neq 0$  for any  $j \neq 1$ . Thus  $\{a_{1,j}\}_j$  has no finite accumulation point (see Figure 1 and 2).

For each polynomial  $q$ , we put

$$J_1 = \{j; \operatorname{Re} C(p_{1,j} - q) > 0, p_{1,j} - q \neq \text{const.}\},$$

$$J'_1 = \{j; C(p_{1,j} - q) \in i\mathbf{R}^-, p_{1,j} - q \neq \text{const.}\},$$

$$J''_1 = \{j; C(p_{1,j} - q) \in H_1, p_{1,j} - q \neq \text{const.}\},$$

$$J_2 = \{j; \operatorname{Re} C(p_{2,j} - q) > 0, p_{2,j} - q \neq \text{const.}\},$$

$$J'_2 = \{j; C(p_{2,j} - q) \in i\mathbf{R}^+, p_{2,j} - q \neq \text{const.}\},$$

$$J''_2 = \{j; C(p_{2,j} - q) \in H_2, p_{2,j} - q \neq \text{const.}\},$$

$$R_1[q] = \sum_{j \in J_1} \exp(p_{1,j}), \quad S_1[q] = \sum_{j \in J'_1} \exp(p_{1,j}), \quad T_1[q] = \sum_{j \in J''_1} \exp(p_{1,j}),$$

$$R_2[q] = \sum_{j \in J_2} \exp(p_{2,j}), \quad S_2[q] = \sum_{j \in J'_2} \exp(p_{2,j}), \quad T_2[q] = \sum_{j \in J''_2} \exp(p_{2,j}),$$

$$b_1(q) = \begin{cases} \exp(p_{1,j}(0) - q(0)) & \text{if } p_{1,j} - q = \text{const. for some } j, \\ 0 & \text{if } p_{1,j} - q \neq \text{const. for all } j, \end{cases}$$

$$b_2(q) = \begin{cases} \exp(p_{2,j}(0) - q(0)) & \text{if } p_{2,j} - q = \text{const. for some } j, \\ 0 & \text{if } p_{2,j} - q \neq \text{const. for all } j. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\sum_j \exp(p_{1,j}) = b_1(q)e^q + R_1[q] + S_1[q] + T_1[q],$$

$$\sum_j \exp(p_{2,j}) = b_2(q)e^q + R_2[q] + S_2[q] + T_2[q].$$

We see that  $b_1(q) = 1$  if and only if  $q \in \{p_{1,j}\}_j$  and that  $b_2(q) = 1$  if and only if  $q \in \{p_{2,j}\}_j$ . Thus, if  $q \in (\{p_{1,j}\}_j - \{p_{2,j}\}_j) \cup (\{p_{2,j}\}_j - \{p_{1,j}\}_j)$ , then  $b_1(q) \neq b_2(q)$ .

LEMMA 1.6. *Let  $q$  be a polynomial of degree at most  $N$ . Assume that (A) holds. If  $\#\{j; A_1 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = l$  or  $\#\{j; A_2 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$ , then we have  $S_1[q] \in E_N$  or  $S_2[q] \in E_N$  respectively.*

*Proof.* Put

$$\alpha_0 = q^{(N)}(0)/N!,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \mathcal{S}_1 \cap \{z; \operatorname{Re} z = \operatorname{Re} \alpha_0, \operatorname{Im} z \leq \operatorname{Im} \alpha_0\},$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{S}_2 \cap \{z; \operatorname{Re} z = \operatorname{Re} \alpha_0, \operatorname{Im} z \geq \operatorname{Im} \alpha_0\}.$$

Then by the definitions of  $J'_1, J'_2$

$$\{a_{1,j} ; j \in J'_1\} \subset \mathcal{L}_1, \quad \{a_{2,j} ; j \in J'_2\} \subset \mathcal{L}_2.$$

Further  $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$  are compact sets (see Figure 3 and 4). Therefore, if  $\#\{j ; A = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$ , then by Lemma 1.5 we have  $\#\{a_{1,j} ; j \in J'_1\} < \infty$ . Thus  $S_1[q] \in E_N$ . Similarly, if  $\#\{j ; A_2 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$ , then we have  $S_2[q] \in E_N$ . Lemma 1.6 is thus proved.

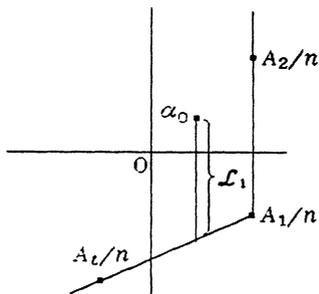


Fig. 3.

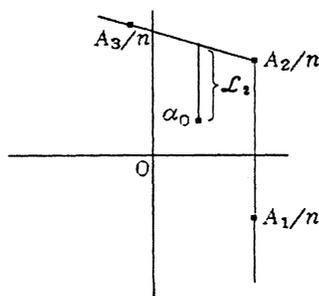


Fig. 4.

LEMMA 1.7. Let  $q$  be a polynomial of degree at most  $N$ . Assume that (A) holds and that  $S_1[q] \in E_N, S_2[q] \in E_N$ . Then there exist positive constants  $\theta'(q), d'(q), h_1, h_2$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} |e^{-q(z)} S_2[q](z)| &\leq \exp(-h_1 |\operatorname{Im} z|) && \text{on } G_1(\theta'(q), d'(q)), \\ |e^{-q(z)} S_1[q](z)| &\leq \exp(-h_2 |\operatorname{Im} z|) && \text{on } G_2(\theta'(q), d'(q)). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* By the definitions of  $S_1[q], S_2[q]$  and Lemma 1.3, we easily have the desired result.

LEMMA 1.8. Let  $q$  be a polynomial of degree at most  $N$ . Assume that (A) holds,  $C(P_\mu - P_1) \in H_1$  for every  $\mu \neq 1$  and that  $C(P_\mu - P_2) \in H_2$  for every  $\mu \neq 2$ . Then there exist positive constants  $\theta(q), d(q), k_1, k'_1, k_2, k'_2$  such that

$$(1) \quad |e^{-q(z)} T_1[q](z)| \leq \exp(-k_1 |\operatorname{Im} z|) + \exp(-k'_1 |z|) \quad \text{on } G_1(\theta(q), d(q)),$$

$$(2) \quad |e^{-\alpha(z)} T_2[q](z)| \leq \exp(-k_2 |\operatorname{Im} z|) + \exp(-k'_2 |z|) \quad \text{on } G_2(\theta(q), d(q)).$$

*Proof.* We shall prove only (1). We may assume  $P_1 = 0$ . Then

$$(1.4) \quad \deg P_\mu \geq 1, \quad C(P_\mu) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } \mu \neq 1.$$

For each  $\lambda = (\lambda_2, \lambda_3, \dots, \lambda_m) \in (N \cup \{0\})^{m-1}$  we put

$$\begin{aligned} \|\lambda\| &= \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \dots + \lambda_m, \\ \delta(\lambda) &= \gamma_{\|\lambda\|} \frac{\|\lambda\|!}{\lambda_2! \lambda_3! \dots \lambda_m!}, \\ q^{(\lambda)} &= \lambda_2 P_2 + \lambda_3 P_3 + \dots + \lambda_m P_m, \end{aligned}$$

where  $(1+w)^{1/n} = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \gamma_j w^j$  ( $|w| < 1$ ). Let  $k$  be a positive number such that

$$(m-1)k < 1.$$

Then by (1.4) and Lemma 1.3, for suitable  $\theta, d$ ,

$$|\exp(P_\mu(z))| < k \quad \text{on } G_1(\theta, d) \quad (\mu = 2, \dots, m).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \gamma_j \left( \sum_{\mu=2}^m \exp(P_\mu) \right)^j &= \sum_{\|\lambda\| \geq 0} \delta(\lambda) \exp(q^{(\lambda)}), \\ \sum_j |\exp(p_{1,j}(z))| &\leq \sum_{\|\lambda\| \geq 0} |\delta(\lambda)| |\exp(q^{(\lambda)}(z))| \leq \sum_{\|\lambda\| \geq 0} |\delta(\lambda)| k^{\|\lambda\|} < \infty \end{aligned}$$

on  $G_1(\theta, d)$ . Therefore  $\sum_j \exp(p_{1,j}(z))$  is absolutely convergent and holomorphic on  $G_1(\theta, d)$ .

Put

$$\mathcal{A} = \{\lambda \in (N \cup \{0\})^{m-1}; C(q^{(\lambda)} - q) \in H_1, \text{ if } q \neq \text{const.}\}.$$

Then by Lemma 1.4, there exist  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfying

$$(1.5) \quad \mathcal{A} \subset \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \rangle.$$

Put

$$\Gamma(\lambda_0, h) = |\delta(\lambda_0)| + \sum_{\|\lambda\| \geq 1} |\delta(\lambda_0 + \lambda)| h^{\|\lambda\|}.$$

Then  $\Gamma(\lambda_0, h) < \infty$  for all  $\lambda_0 \in (N \cup \{0\})^{m-1}$  and all  $h \in (0, 1/(m-1))$ . By (1.5)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \in J''_1} |\exp(p_{1,j} - q)| &\leq \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{A}} |\delta(\lambda)| |\exp(q^{(\lambda)} - q)| \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^r |\exp(q^{(\alpha_j)} - q)| (|\delta(\alpha_j)| + \sum_{\|\lambda\| \geq 1} |\delta(\alpha_j + \lambda)| |\exp(q^{(\lambda)})|) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^r |\exp(q^{(\alpha_j)} - q)| \Gamma(\alpha_j, k) \quad \text{on } G_1(\theta, d). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $C(q^{\alpha_j} - q) \in H_1$  and  $q^{\alpha_j} - q \neq \text{const.}$ , by Lemma 1.3 there exist positive constants  $\theta(q) (< \theta)$ ,  $d(q) (> d)$ ,  $k_1, k'_1$  such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^r |\exp(q^{\alpha_j}(z) - q(z))| \Gamma(\alpha_j, k) < \exp(-k_1 |\text{Im } z|) + \exp(-k'_1 |z|)$$

on  $G_1(\theta(q), d(q))$ . Thus we have the desired result.

LEMMA 1.9. *Let  $f$  be a holomorphic function on  $\{z; |\arg z| < \omega_0\}$  ( $\omega_0 > 0$ ). Assume that (A) holds,  $\#\{j; A_1 = A_j, j = 1, \dots, m\} = l$ ,  $\#\{j; A_2 = A_j, j = 1, \dots, m\} = 1$  and that  $f^n = e^{P_1} + \dots + e^{P_m}$  on  $\{z; |\arg z| < \omega_0\}$ . Then*

$$\{p_{1,j}\}_j = \{p_{2,j}\}_j.$$

*Proof.* Put  $W = (\{p_{1,j}\}_j - \{p_{2,j}\}_j) \cup (\{p_{2,j}\}_j - \{p_{1,j}\}_j)$  and assume  $W \neq \emptyset$ . Then, by Lemma 1.5,  $\{\text{Re } a_{v,j}; p_{v,j} \in W\}$  is a discrete set which is bounded from above. Thus there exists  $\alpha_0 \in \{a_{v,j}; p_{v,j} \in W\}$  which satisfies

$$(1.6) \quad \text{Re } \alpha_0 = \max \{\text{Re } a_{v,j}; p_{v,j} \in W\}.$$

Put

$$W' = \{p_{v,j} \in W; a_{v,j} = \alpha_0\}.$$

Then, by Lemma 1.5,  $\#W' < \infty$ . Thus, by Lemma 1.2, there exists a polynomial  $q_0$  in  $W'$  such that

$$\text{Re } C(p - q_0) \leq 0 \quad \text{for every } p \in W'.$$

On the other hand, by (1.6),  $\text{Re } C(p_{v,j} - \alpha_0) = \text{Re}(a_{v,j} - \alpha_0) \leq 0$  for every  $p_{v,j} \in W - W'$ . Thus we have

$$(1.7) \quad \text{Re } C(p - q_0) \leq 0 \quad \text{for every } p \in W.$$

We define  $J_1, J'_1, J''_1, J_2, J'_2, J''_2$  for  $q = q_0$ . Then by (1.7) we have  $\{p_{1,j}; j \in J_1\} \cap W = \emptyset$ ,  $\{p_{2,j}; j \in J_2\} \cap W = \emptyset$ . Therefore, by the definitions of  $J_1, J_2$  and  $W$ ,  $\{p_{1,j}; j \in J_1\} = \{p_{2,j}; j \in J_2\}$  and  $\{a_{1,j} \in J_1\} = \{a_{2,j}; j \in J_2\}$ . Further, if  $j \in J_1$ , then by the definition of  $J_1$  we have  $a_{1,j} = \alpha_0$  or  $\text{Re } a_{1,j} > \text{Re } \alpha_0$ . Thus by Lemma 1.5

$$\{a_{1,j}; j \in J_1\} \subset (S_1 \cap S_2 \cap \{z; \text{Re } z \geq \text{Re } \alpha_0\}).$$

Put  $\mathcal{T} = \{z; \text{Re } z \geq \text{Re } \alpha_0\}$ . Since  $\mathcal{T}$  is a compact set, by Lemma 1.5 we have  $\#\{a_{1,j}; j \in J_1\} < \infty$  (see Figure 5). Thus  $R_1 = R_2 \in E_N$ .

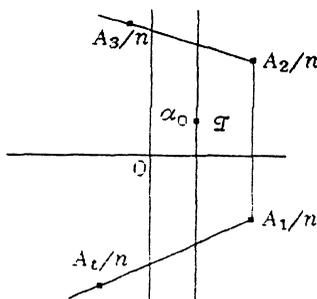


Fig. 5.

Let  $\theta(q_0), \theta'(q_0), d(q_0), d'(q_0)$  be positive constants for which Lemma 1.7 and 1.8 hold with  $q$  replaced by  $q_0$ , and let  $\theta_0, d_0$  be positive constants satisfying  $0 < \theta_0 < \min(\omega_0, \theta(q_0), \theta'(q_0)), d_0 > \max(d(q_0), d'(q_0))$ . Put

$$R = R_1[q_0] = R_2[q_0], \quad F = (f - R - S_1[q_0] - S_2[q_0] - b_2(q_0)e^{q_0})e^{-q_0}.$$

Then, by Lemma 1.6,  $F$  is a holomorphic function on  $\{|\arg z| < \omega_0\}$  satisfying

$$(1.8) \quad \begin{aligned} F(z) &= (b_1(q_0) - b_2(q_0)) - S_2[q_0](z)e^{-q_0(z)} + T_1[q_0](z)e^{-q_0(z)} && \text{on } G_1(\theta_0, d_0), \\ F(z) &= -S_1[q_0](z)e^{-q_0(z)} + T_2[q_0](z)e^{-q_0(z)} && \text{on } G_2(\theta_0, d_0) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by Lemma 1.7 and 1.8, there are positive constants  $K_1, K_2$  such that for every  $y_0 > d_0$  we have

$$(1.9) \quad \begin{aligned} |F(x + iy_0) - (b_1(q_0) - b_2(q_0))| &\leq \exp(-K_1 y_0) + o(1) && (x \rightarrow +\infty), \\ |F(x - iy_0)| &\leq \exp(-K_2 y_0) + o(1) && (x \rightarrow +\infty). \end{aligned}$$

Put  $L_0 = y_0 \tan^{-1} \theta_0$ . Then  $F$  is bounded on  $\partial\{z; \operatorname{Re} z \geq L_0, |\operatorname{Im} z| \leq y_0\}$  and satisfies  $|F(z)| < \exp(A|z|^N)$  on  $\{z; \operatorname{Re} z \geq L_0, |\operatorname{Im} z| \leq y_0\}$  with a positive constant  $A$ . Therefore by the Phragmén-Lindelöf theorem (see [3; p. 43]) it is verified that  $F$  is a bounded function in  $\{z; \operatorname{Re} z \geq L_0, |\operatorname{Im} z| \leq y_0\}$ . Let  $L (> L_0)$  be a positive number. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{L} \int_{L_0}^L F(x + iy_0) dx &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{L_0}^L F(x - iy_0) dx \\ &\quad - \frac{i}{L} \int_{-y_0}^{y_0} F(L_0 + iy) dy + \frac{i}{L} \int_{-y_0}^{y_0} F(L + iy) dy \end{aligned}$$

(see Figure 6).

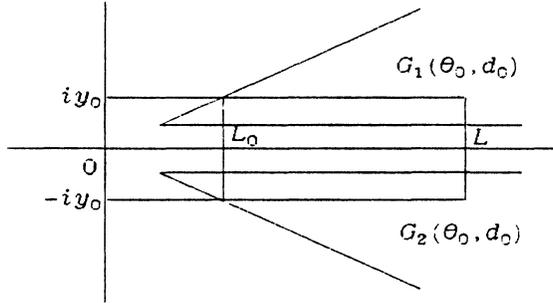


Fig. 6.

Since  $F$  is bounded on  $\{z; \operatorname{Re} z \geq L_0, |\operatorname{Im} z| \leq y_0\}$ , by using (1.9) we have

$$|b_1(q_0) - b_2(q_0)| \leq \exp(-K_1 y_0) + \exp(-K_2 y_0) + o(1) + O(1/L) \quad (L \rightarrow +\infty).$$

Since  $q_0 \in W$ , we have  $b_1(q_0) \neq b_2(q_0)$ . Thus for  $y_0$  sufficiently large, we have a contradiction. Thus  $W = \emptyset$ , namely  $\{p_{1,j}\}_j = \{p_{2,j}\}_j$ . Lemma 1.9 is thus proved.

From Lemma 1.5 and 1.9 we have the following

**COROLLARY.** *Under the hypotheses of Lemma 1.9, assume that  $\mathcal{S}_1 \cap \mathcal{S}_2$  is a bounded set. Then  $f$  is an element of  $E_N$ .*

Now we can complete the proof of Theorem 1. For each polynomial  $p$  and  $\theta \in \mathbf{R}$ , we set  $(p)_\theta(z) = p(z e^{i\theta})$ . Then  $(\cdot)_\theta : C[z] \rightarrow C[z]$  is a linear bijection which leaves every element of  $C$  ( $\subset C[z]$ ) fixed. Therefore for every  $\nu \in \{1, \dots, t\}$  and  $\theta \in \mathbf{R}$ , we have

$$\exp((P_\nu)_\theta/n) \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^m \gamma_j \left( \sum_{\mu=1, \dots, m-1} \exp((P_\mu)_\theta - (P_\nu)_\theta) \right)^j \right) = \sum_j \exp(p_{\nu,j})_\theta.$$

Let  $\nu \in \{1, \dots, t\}$  be fixed. Then there exists  $\theta_\nu \in (-\pi/N, \pi/N]$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re}(A_\nu e^{iN\theta_\nu}) = \operatorname{Re}(A_{\nu+1} e^{iN\theta_\nu}), \quad \operatorname{Im}(A_\nu e^{iN\theta_\nu}) < \operatorname{Im}(A_{\nu+1} e^{iN\theta_\nu}),$$

$$\operatorname{Re}(A_\mu e^{iN\theta_\nu}) \leq \operatorname{Re}(A_\nu e^{iN\theta_\nu}) \quad (\mu = 1, \dots, m).$$

Therefore (A) is fulfilled with  $P_1, \dots, P_m, A_1, A_2$  replaced by  $(P_1)_{\theta_\nu}, \dots, (P_m)_{\theta_\nu}, A_\nu e^{iN\theta_\nu}, A_{\nu+1} e^{iN\theta_\nu}$  respectively. Thus, if  $\theta_\nu \in (\omega_1, \omega_2)$ , then by Lemma 1.9  $\{(p_{\nu,j})_{\theta_\nu}\}_j = \{(p_{\nu+1,j})_{\theta_\nu}\}_j$ . Therefore  $\{p_{\nu,j}\}_j = \{p_{\nu+1,j}\}_j$ ,  $\{a_{\nu,j}\}_j = \{a_{\nu+1,j}\}_j \subset \mathcal{S}_\nu \cap \mathcal{S}_{\nu+1}$ . Let  $\nu_0 \in \{1, \dots, t\}$  be the integer such that  $\{\nu; \theta_\nu \in (\omega_1, \omega_2)\} = \{\nu_0, \nu_0+1, \dots, \nu_0+s\} \pmod{t}$ . Then  $\{a_{\nu_0,j}\}_j = \{a_{\nu_0+1,j}\}_j = \dots = \{a_{\nu_0+s+1,j}\}_j \subset (\mathcal{S}_{\nu_0} \cap \mathcal{S}_{\nu_0+1} \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{S}_{\nu_0+s+1})$ . (We set  $a_{\nu+t,j} = a_{\nu,j}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_{\nu+t} = \mathcal{S}_\nu$  ( $\nu \in \{1, \dots, t\}$ )). Since  $\omega_2 - \omega_1 > \pi/N$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_{\nu_0} \cap \mathcal{S}_{\nu_0+1} \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{S}_{\nu_0+s+1}$  is a bounded set. Thus  $\{a_{\nu_0,j}\}_j$  is a <sup>finite</sup> set. Therefore by Lemma 1.5  $\{p_{\nu_0,j}\}_j$  is so. Thus  $f$  is an element of  $E_N$ . Theorem 1 is thus proved.

**2. Proof of Theorem 2.**

We begin with the proof of the following

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $f$  be a holomorphic function on  $\{z; |\arg z| < \omega_0\}$  ( $\omega_0 > 0$ ) and  $g$  be an element of  $E_{N-1}$ . Assume that (A) holds,  $\#\{j; A_1 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$ ,  $\#\{j; A_2 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$  and that  $f^n = ge^{P_1} + e^{P_2} + \dots + e^{P_m}$  on  $\{z; |\arg z| < \omega_0\}$ . Then  $g = h^n$  for some  $h \in E_{N-1}$ .*

**LEMMA 2.1.** *Let  $n (\geq 2)$  be an integer,  $P_1, \dots, P_s$  be polynomials,  $P_\mu - P_\nu \neq \text{const.}$  ( $\mu \neq \nu$ ),  $C(P_\mu - P_1) \in H_1$  ( $\mu=2, \dots, s$ ) and  $\{r_j\}_j$  be the set of polynomials defined by*

$$\exp(P_1/n) \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \gamma_j \left( \sum_{\mu=2}^s \exp(P_\mu - P_1) \right)^j \right) \equiv \sum_j \exp(r_j),$$

$$r_j - r_k \neq \text{const.} \quad (j \neq k), \quad \text{Im}(r_j(0)) \in [0, 2\pi),$$

where  $1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \gamma_j w^j = (1+w)^{1/n}$  ( $|w| < 1$ ). Let  $\Pi (\neq \emptyset)$  be a subset of  $\{r_j\}_j$ . Then there exists a polynomial  $p_0 \in \Pi$  such that

$$C(p - p_0) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } p \in \Pi - \{p_0\}.$$

*Proof.* We may assume  $P_1 = 0$ . Then

$$\deg P_\mu \geq 1, \quad C(P_\mu) \in H_1 \quad (\mu=2, \dots, s).$$

For each polynomial  $p$  we set

$$(p)^*(z) = p(z) - p(0),$$

and for each  $\lambda = (\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_s) \in (N \cup \{0\})^{s-1}$

$$q^{(\lambda)} = \lambda_2 P_2 + \dots + \lambda_s P_s.$$

Then  $(\cdot)^* : C[z] \rightarrow C[z]$  is a linear mapping. By the definition of  $\{r_j\}_j$  and Lemma 1.1, we have

$$(2.1) \quad \{(r_j)^*\}_j \subset \{(q^{(\lambda)})^*\}; \lambda \in (N \cup \{0\})^{s-1},$$

$$(2.2) \quad \deg q^{(\beta)} \geq 1, \quad C((q^{(\beta)})^*) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } \beta \neq (0, \dots, 0).$$

Put

$$(2.3) \quad \Pi^* = \{(p)^*; p \in \Pi\}, \quad \mathcal{A} = \{\lambda; (q^{(\lambda)})^* \in \Pi^*\}.$$

Then by (2.2)

$$\Pi^* = \{(q^{(\lambda)})^*\}; \lambda \in \mathcal{A}.$$

Further by Lemma 1.4 there exist  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\tau \in \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$\mathcal{A} \subset \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\tau \rangle.$$

Put

$$\tilde{\Pi} = \{(q^{(\alpha_j + \beta)})^*; j=1, \dots, \tau, \beta \in (N \cup \{0\})^{s-1}\}.$$

Then

$$(2.4) \quad \Pi^* \subset \tilde{\Pi}.$$

By Lemma 1.2 we may assume

$$C(q^{(\alpha_j)} - q^{(\alpha_1)}) \in H_1$$

for every  $q^{(\alpha_j)}$  satisfying  $(q^{(\alpha_j)})^* \neq (q^{(\alpha_1)})^*$ . Note that  $C((q^{(\alpha_j + \beta)})^* - (q^{(\alpha_1)})^*) = C((q^{(\alpha_j + \beta)})^* - (q^{(\alpha_j)})^* + (q^{(\alpha_j)})^* - (q^{(\alpha_1)})^*)$ . Therefore by (2.2) and Lemma 1.1

$$C(p - (q^{(\alpha_1)})^*) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } p \in \tilde{\Pi} - \{(q^{(\alpha_1)})^*\}.$$

Thus by (2.4)

$$(2.5) \quad C(p - (q^{(\alpha_1)})^*) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } p \in \Pi^* - \{(q^{(\alpha_1)})^*\}.$$

Since  $\alpha_1 \in \mathcal{A}$ , by (2.3) there is an element  $p_0$  of  $\Pi$  such that

$$\text{fo} \langle \beta \rangle^* = (\langle \beta \rangle^*)^*$$

If  $p \in \Pi - \{p_0\}$ , then  $\deg(p - p_0) \geq 1$  and  $(p)^* \in \Pi^* - \{(p_0)^*\}$ . Therefore by (2.5)

$$C(p - p_0) = C((p)^* - (p_0)^*) = C((p)^* - (q^{(\alpha_1)})^*) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } p \in \Pi - \{p_0\}.$$

Thus we have the desired result.

LEMMA 2.2. Assume that (A) holds,  $\{j \mid A_1 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = \{1, t+1, \dots, s\}$  ( $t+1 \leq s \leq m$ ),  $\#\{j \mid A_2 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$  and that

$$\exp(P_1) + \sum_{j=t+1}^s \exp(P_j) \neq h^n \quad \text{for any } h \in E_N.$$

Let  $\{p_{1,j}\}_j, \{p_{2,j}\}_j$  be defined by (1.1). Then there exists  $q_0 \in (\{p_{1,j}\}_j - \{p_{2,j}\}_j) \cup (\{p_{2,j}\}_j - \{p_{1,j}\}_j)$  such that

$$R_1[q_0] = R_2[q_0] \in E_N, \quad S_1[q_0] \in E_N, \quad S_2[q_0] \in E_N,$$

where  $R_1[q_0], R_2[q_0], S_1[q_0], S_2[q_0]$  are defined in Section 1.

*Proof.* We may assume

$$P_1 = 0, \quad C(P_\mu) \in H_1 \quad (\mu=2, \dots, m).$$

Then

$$N-1 \geq \deg P_\mu \geq 1 \quad (\mu=t+1, \dots, s),$$

$$\deg P_\mu = N \quad (\mu \in \{2, \dots, m\} - \{t+1, \dots, s\}).$$

Let  $\{r_j\}$ , be the set of polynomials defined by

$$1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \gamma_j \left( \sum_{\mu=l+1}^s \exp(P_{\mu}) \right)' \equiv \sum_{j=1}^s \exp(r_j),$$

$$r_j - r_k \neq \text{const.} \quad (j \neq k), \quad \text{Im}(r_j(0)) \in [0, 2\pi),$$

where  $1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \gamma_j w^j \neq (l+w)^{1/n}$  ( $|w| < 1$ ). Then by Lemma 1.1

$$\{p_{1,j}; a_{1,j}=0\} = \{r_j\},$$

where  $a_{v,j} = p_{v,j}^{(N)}(0)/N!$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_1 &= \{p_{1,j}\}_j, & \Pi_2 &= \{p_{2,j}\}_j, \\ \pi_1 &= \{p_{1,j}; a_{1,j}=0\}, & \pi_2 &= \{p_{2,j}; a_{2,j}=0\}. \end{aligned}$$

By assumption we have  $\#\pi_1 = \infty$ . Since  $\#\{j; A_2 = A_j, j=1, \dots, m\} = 1$ , by Lemma 1.5  $\#\pi_2 < \infty$ . Therefore  $(\pi_1 - \pi_2) \neq \emptyset$ . Thus by Lemma 2.1 there exists  $q_1 \in (\pi_1 - \pi_2)$  such that

$$(2.6) \quad C(q - q_1) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\pi_1 - \pi_2) - \{q_1\}.$$

Since  $\#(\pi_2 - \pi_1) < \infty$ , by Lemma 1.2 there exists  $q_2 \in (\pi_2 - \pi_1)$  such that

$$(2.7) \quad C(q - q_2) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\pi_2 - \pi_1) - \{q_2\}$$

whenever  $(\pi_2 - \pi_1) \neq \emptyset$ . Note that  $C(q_1 - q_2) \neq 0$ . Put

$$q_0 = \begin{cases} q_1 & \text{if } (\pi_2 - \pi_1) \neq \emptyset \text{ or } C(q_2 - q_1) \in H_1, \\ q_2 & \text{if } (\pi_2 - \pi_1) \neq \emptyset \text{ and } C(q_1 - q_2) \in H_1. \end{cases}$$

Then  $q_0 \in ((\pi_1 - \pi_2) \cup (\pi_2 - \pi_1)) \subset ((\Pi_1 - \Pi_2) \cup (\Pi_2 - \Pi_1))$ . When  $q_0 = q_1$  and  $(\pi_2 - \pi_1) \neq \emptyset$ , we have  $C(q - q_0) = C((q - q_2) + (q_2 - q_1))$ . Thus, by (2.7) and Lemma 1.1,

$$C(q - q_0) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\pi_2 - \pi_1).$$

When  $q_0 = q_2$ , we have  $C(q - q_0) = C((q - q_1) + (q_1 - q_2))$ . Thus, by (2.6) and Lemma 1.1,

$$C(q - q_0) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\pi_1 - \pi_2).$$

Therefore, from (2.6), (2.7),

$$(2.8) \quad C(q - q_0) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\pi_1 - \pi_2) - \{q_0\},$$

$$(2.9) \quad \text{Re } C(q - q_0) \leq 0 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\pi_1 - \pi_2) \cup (\pi_2 - \pi_1).$$

Since  $\deg q_0 \leq N - 1$ , we have  $C(p_{1,j} - q_0) = a_{1,j} (\neq 0)$ ,  $C(p_{2,j} - q_0) = a_{2,j}$  for  $p_{1,j} \in (\Pi_1 - \pi_1)$ ,  $p_{2,j} \in (\Pi_2 - \pi_2)$ . Note that  $A_1 = 0$ ,  $A_2 \in i\mathbf{R}^+$ . By Lemma 1.5 and (1.3),  $a_{1,j} \in (\mathcal{S}_1 - \{0\}) \subset H_1$ ,  $a_{2,j} \in \mathcal{S}_2 \subset \{z; \text{Re } z \leq 0\}$  for  $p_{1,j} \in (\Pi_1 - \pi_1)$ ,  $p_{2,j} \in (\Pi_2 - \pi_2)$ .

Therefore

$$(2.10) \quad C(q-q_0) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\Pi_1 - \pi_1),$$

$$(2.11) \quad \operatorname{Re} C(q-q_0) \leq 0 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\Pi_2 - \pi_2).$$

Thus, from (2.8)-(2.11), we have

$$(2.12) \quad C(q-q_0) \in H_1 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\Pi_1 - (\pi_1 \cap \pi_2)) - \{q_0\},$$

$$(2.13) \quad \operatorname{Re} C(q-q_0) \leq 0 \quad \text{for every } q \in (\Pi_1 \cup \Pi_2) - (\pi_1 \cap \pi_2).$$

We define  $J_1, J'_1, J''_1, J_2, J'_2, J''_2$  for  $q=q_0$  as in Section 1. Then, from (2.13) and the definitions of  $J_1, J_2$ ,

$$\{p_{1,j}, j \in J_1\} = \{p_{2,j}, j \in J_2\} \subset (\pi_1 \cap \pi_2).$$

Since  $\#(\pi_1 \cap \pi_2) < \infty$ , we have

$$R_1[q_0] = R_2[q_0] \in E_{N-1}.$$

From Lemma 1.6

$$S_2[q_0] \in E_N.$$

Further by (2.12) and the definition of  $J'_1$

$$\{p_{1,j}, j \in J'_1\} \subset (\pi_1 \cap \pi_2).$$

Thus

$$S_1[q_0] \in E_{N-1}.$$

Lemma 2.2 is thus proved.

*Proof of Theorem 5.* We use the notations of Lemma 2.2. Assume that  $g \neq h^n$  for any  $h \in E_{N-1}$ . Then by Lemma 2.2 there exists  $q_0 \in (\{p_{1,j}\}_j - \{p_{2,j}\}_j) \cup (\{p_{2,j}\}_j - \{p_{1,j}\}_j)$  such that

$$R_1[q_0] = R_2[q_0] \in E_N, \quad S_1[q_0] \in E_N, \quad S_2[q_0] \in E_N.$$

Therefore Lemma 1.7 and 1.8 hold for those  $S_1[q_0], S_2[q_0], T_1[q_0], T_2[q_0]$ . Put

$$R = R_1[q_0] = R_2[q_0], \quad F = (f - R - S[q_0] - S_2[q_0] - b_2(q_0)e^{a_0})e^{-a_0}.$$

Then  $F$  is a holomorphic function on  $\{|\arg z| < \omega_0\}$  satisfying (1.8), (1.9), and  $b_1(q_0) \neq b_2(q_0)$ . Thus we have a contradiction as in Section 1. Theorem 5 is thus proved.

Now we prove Theorem 2. Put  $N = \max_j \deg P_j, A_j = P_j^{(N)}(0)/N (j=1, \dots, 4)$ .

We may assume that  $\#\{A_j\}_j \geq 2$ . Then we have the following three cases.

*Case 1):*  $\#\{A_j\}_j = 2$ . In this case, from the following Lemma 2.3, we have a contradiction.

LEMMA 2.3. *Let  $n (\geq 2), N (\geq 1)$  be integers,  $A_1, A_2$  be distinct constants*

and  $g_1, g_2$  be nonzero elements of  $E_{N-1}$ . Then

$$f(z)^n \neq g_1(z) \exp(A_1 z^N) + g_2(z) \exp(A_2 z^N)$$

for any entire function  $f$ .

*Proof.* Assume that there exists an entire function  $f$  satisfying  $f^n(z) = g_1(z) \exp(A_1 z^N) + g_2(z) \exp(A_2 z^N)$ . Put

$$F(z) = g_1(z) \exp((A_1 - A_2)z^N).$$

Then  $T(r, g_2) = o(T(r, F))$  and

$$\Theta(0, F) = \Theta(\infty, F) = 1, \quad \Theta(-g_2, F) \geq 1 - (1/n).$$

Thus by the second fundamental theorem (see [2; p. 47]) we have a contradiction.

Case 2):  $\#\{A_j\}_j = 3$ . Suppose that  $A_1, \dots, A_4$  do not lie on any straight line. Then we may assume that

$$A_1 = 0, \quad A_2 \in i\mathbf{R}^+, \quad \operatorname{Re} A_3 < 0, \quad \operatorname{Re} A_4 < 0.$$

Define  $p_{\nu,j}, a_{\nu,j}$  and  $S_\nu$  ( $\nu = 1, 2$ ) as in Section 1. Then, by Lemma 1.9,  $\{a_{1,j}\}_j = \{a_{2,j}\}_j$ . Further from (1.1) we have  $\{(P_1/n) - \nu(P_2 - P_1) + \log \gamma_\nu, \nu \in N\} \subset \{p_{1,j}\}_j$ . Therefore, by Lemma 1.5,  $(S_1 \cap S_2) \supset \{a_{1,j}\}_j \supset \{\nu A_2; \nu \in N\}$ . Thus  $(S_1 \cap S_2 \cap i\mathbf{R}) \supset \{\nu A_2; \nu \in N\}$ . Since  $S_1 \cap S_2 \cap i\mathbf{R} = \{ix \mid 0 \leq x \leq (\operatorname{Im} A_2)/n\}$ , this is a contradiction. Thus  $A_1, \dots, A_4$  lie on a straight line. We assume that  $A_2 = A_3$  and  $A_1 \neq A_2 \neq A_4$  (see Figure 7 and 8).

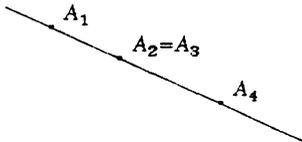


Fig. 7.

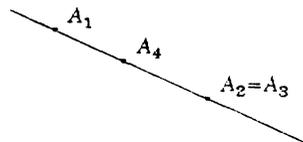


Fig. 8.

Subcase 2.1):  $A_2 \in \overline{A_1 A_4}$ . (We denote by  $\overline{\alpha\beta}$  the line segment  $\{\alpha + x(\beta - \alpha); 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$ .) First we shall show the following

LEMMA 2.4.

(1) Let  $Q_1, \dots, Q_m$  be polynomials satisfying  $Q_j - Q_k \neq \text{const.}$  ( $j \neq k$ ). Then  $e^{Q_1} + \dots + e^{Q_m} \neq 0$ .

(2) Let  $P_1, \dots, P_m$  be polynomials. Assume that  $e^{P_1} + \dots + e^{P_m} = 0$  and that  $\sum_{j \in J} e^{P_j} \neq 0$  for any  $J \subsetneq \{1, \dots, m\}$  ( $J \neq \emptyset$ ). Then  $(P_1)^* = \dots = (P_m)^*$ . //  $e^{P_1} + e^{P_2} = 0$  or  $e^{P_1} + e^{P_2} + e^{P_3} = 0$ , then we always have  $(P_1)^* = (P_2)^*$  or  $(P_1)^* = (P_2)^* = (P_3)^*$  respectively. (For each polynomial  $p$  we set  $(p)^*(z) = p(z) - p(0)$ .)

*Proof.* These are well-known results and immediate consequences of Lemma 1.3. We assume that  $Q_1 <_2 Q_2 <_2 \dots <_2 Q_m$ . By Lemma 1.1,  $C(Q_j - Q_m) \in H_2$  ( $0=1, \dots, m-1$ ). Thus, by Lemma 1.3, there exist positive constants  $\theta, d$  such that  $|e^{Q_1 - Q_m} + \dots + e^{Q_{m-1} - Q_m}| < 1/2$  on  $G_2(\theta, d)$ . Therefore  $|(e^{Q_1} + \dots + e^{Q_m})e^{-Q_m}| > 1/2$  on  $G_2(\theta, d)$ . Thus (1) is proved. (2) follows from (1).

By Theorem 1 we have  $f \in E_N$ . We may assume that  $A_1, \dots, A_4 \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $A_1 < A_2 = A_3 < A_4$  and that  $P_2 \leq_2 P_3$ . Then we have  $f = e^{Q_1} + \dots + e^{Q_m}$ , where  $Q_j$ 's are polynomials of degree at most  $N$  satisfying  $Q_\mu - Q_\nu \neq \text{const.}$  ( $\mu \neq \nu$ ),  $Q_1 <_2 Q_2 <_2 \dots <_2 Q_m$  and  $Q_j^{(N)}(0)/N! \in [A_1/n, A_4/n]$  ( $j=1, \dots, m$ ).

Put  $(e^{Q_1} + \dots + e^{Q_m})^n = \sum_{\mu_1 + \dots + \mu_m = n} n! (\mu_1! \dots \mu_m!)^{-1} e^{\mu_1 Q_1} \dots e^{\mu_m Q_m} = \exp(\tilde{Q}_1) + \dots + \exp(\tilde{Q}_k)$ , where  $Q_j$ 's are polynomials satisfying  $\tilde{Q}_\mu - Q_\nu \neq \text{const.}$  ( $\mu \neq \nu$ ),  $\tilde{Q}_1 <_2 \tilde{Q}_2 <_2 \dots <_2 \tilde{Q}_k$ . It is easily seen that  $m \geq 2$  and

$$\tilde{Q}_1 = nQ_1, \quad \tilde{Q}_2 = (n-1)Q_1 + Q_2, \quad \tilde{Q}_{k-1} = Q_{m-1} + (n-1)Q_m, \quad \tilde{Q}_k = nQ_m.$$

We shall consider the following two cases.

1)  $P_2 - P_3 = \text{const.}$ . In this case we have  $f^n = e^{P_1} + e^{P_2+c} + e^{P_4} = \exp(\tilde{Q}_1) + \dots + \exp(\tilde{Q}_k)$  for some constant  $c$ . Therefore, by Lemma 2.4, we have  $k=3$ ,  $(n-1)Q_1 + Q_2 = Q_{m-1} + (n-1)Q_m = P_2 + c$ . Thus  $R \equiv (n-1)(Q_1 - Q_m) + (Q_2 - Q_{m-1}) = 0$ . If  $m > 2$ , then  $Q_1 <_2 Q_m$ ,  $Q_2 \leq_2 Q_{m-1}$ . Therefore, by Lemma 1.1, we have  $R <_2 0$ . This is a contradiction. Thus  $m=2$ ,  $R = (n-2)(Q_1 - Q_2)$ . If  $n > 2$ , then  $R <_2 0$ . This is again a contradiction. Thus  $m=n=2, f = e^{Q_1} + e^{Q_2}$ .

2)  $P_2 - P_3 \neq \text{const.}$ . By Lemma 2.4 we have

$$(2.14) \quad P_1 = nQ_1, \quad P_2 = (n-1)Q_1 + Q_2, \quad P_3 = Q_{m-1} + (n-1)Q_m, \quad P_4 = nQ_m.$$

Put  $B_j = Q_j^{(N)}(0)/N!$  ( $j=1, \dots, m$ ). Then by (2.14)

$$A_1 = nB_1, \quad A_2 = (n-1)B_1 + B_2, \quad A_3 = B_{m-1} + (n-1)B_m, \quad A_4 = nB_m.$$

Since  $A_1 < A_2 = A_3 < A_4$ , we have  $B_1 < B_2, B_{m-1} < B_m, B_j \leq B_{j+1}$  ( $0=1, \dots, m-1$ ),  $(n-1)(B_1 - B_m) + (B_2 - B_{m-1}) = 0$ . Therefore we have  $n=m=2$  as in 1). Thus  $f = e^{Q_1} + e^{Q_2}$ . This implies  $e^{P_2} + e^{P_3} = 2e^{Q_1 + Q_2}, P_2 - P_3 = \text{const.}$ , which contradicts the assumption.

*Subcase 2.2):*  $A_2 \in \overline{A_1 A_4}$ . We may assume that  $\text{Re } A_1 = \dots = \text{Re } A_4, \text{Im } A_1 > \text{Im } A_4 > \text{Im } A_2 = \text{Im } A_3$ . If  $P_2 - P_3 \neq \text{const.}$ , then by Theorem 5 and Lemma 2.3 we have a contradiction. Thus  $P_2 - P_3 = \text{const.}$ . Therefore this case is reduced to Subcase 2.1).

*Case 3):*  $\#\{A_j\}_j = 4$ . By Theorem 1 it is verified that  $f \in E_N$ . As in Case 2), we see that  $A_1, \dots, A_4$  lie on a straight line. We may assume that  $A_1, \dots, A_4 \in \mathbf{R}, 0 = A_1 < A_2 < A_3 < A_4$  and  $P_1 = 0$ . Then  $f = c_1 e^{Q_1} + \dots + c_m e^{Q_m}$ , where  $c_j$ 's are nonzero constants and  $Q_j$ 's are polynomials such that  $Q_j(0) = 0$  ( $j=1, \dots, m$ ),  $\deg Q_j \leq N$  ( $j=2, \dots, m$ ),  $Q_j^{(N)}(0)/N! \in [0, A_4/n]$  ( $j=1, \dots, m$ ) and  $Q_1 <_2 Q_2 <_2 \dots <_2 Q_m$ .

Put  $(c_1 e^{Q_1} + \dots + c_m e^{Q_m})^n = \exp(\tilde{Q}_1) + \dots + \exp(\tilde{Q}_k)$ , where  $\tilde{Q}_j$ 's are polynomials satisfying  $Q_\mu - \tilde{Q}_\nu \neq \text{const.}$  ( $\mu \neq \nu$ ),  $Q_1 <_2 Q_2 <_2 \dots <_2 Q_k$ . By Lemma 2.4 we have  $\text{fe}=4$  and  $P_j = \tilde{Q}_j$  ( $j=1, \dots, 4$ ). Since  $P_1=0$ , we have  $c_1^n e^{nQ_1}=1$ . Therefore we may assume  $c_1=1, Q_1=0$ . It is easily seen that  $\text{ra}^2$  and

$$(\tilde{Q}_1)^* = nQ_1, \quad (\tilde{Q}_2)^* = (n-1)Q_1 + Q_2, \quad (\tilde{Q}_3)^* = Q_{m-1} + (n-1)Q_m, \quad (\tilde{Q}_4)^* = nQ_m.$$

Thus

$$(2.15) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &= (P_1)^* = Q_1, & (P_2)^* &= (n-1)Q_1 + Q_2 = Q_2, \\ (P_3)^* &= Q_{m-1} + (n-1)Q_m, & (P_4)^* &= nQ_m. \end{aligned}$$

Put  $B_j = Q_j^{(N)}(0)/N!$  ( $j=1, \dots, m$ ). Then

$$(2.16) \quad 0 \leq B_j \leq B_{j+1} \leq A_4/n \quad (j=1, \dots, m-1).$$

Further by (2.15)

$$(2.17) \quad 0 = A_1 = B_1, \quad A_2 = B_2, \quad A_3 = B_{m-1} + (n-1)B_m, \quad A_4 = nB_m.$$

Since  $A_1 < A_2 < A_3 < A_4$ , we have  $B_1 < B_2, B_{m-1} < B_m$ .

Assume  $m \geq 3$ . Let  $\rho$  be the integer such that  $B_2 = B_3 = \dots = B_\rho < B_{\rho+1}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \{(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_m); \sum_{j=1}^m \mu_j B_j \leq B_2, \sum_{j=1}^m \mu_j = n, \mu_j \in N \cup \{0\}\} \\ &= \{(n, 0, \dots, 0)\} \cup \{(n-1, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_\nu, 1, 0, \dots, 0); \nu=0, \dots, \rho-2\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $(\tilde{Q}_j)^* = Q_j$  ( $j=1, \dots, \rho$ ) If  $\rho \geq 3$ , then

$$f^n = 1 + e^{P_2} + e^{P_3} + e^{P_4} = 1 + n(c_2 e^{Q_2} + c_3 e^{Q_3} + \dots + c_\rho e^{Q_\rho}) + \dots + c_m^n e^{nQ_m}.$$

Therefore, by Lemma 2.4,  $(P_2)^* = (Q_2)^* = Q_2, (P_3)^* = (\tilde{Q}_3)^* = Q_3$ . Thus  $A_2 = B_2, A_3 = B_3$ . Hence  $A_2 = A_3$ . This is a contradiction. Thus  $B_2 < B_3$ . Similarly  $B_{m-2} < B_{m-1}$ . Therefore, if  $m \geq 3$ , then

$$(2.18) \quad 0 = B_1 < B_2 < B_3, \quad B_{m-2} < B_{m-1} < B_m.$$

LEMMA 2.5. *There exist positive integers  $\lambda_j$  ( $j=2, \dots, m$ ) such that*

$$(2.19) \quad Q_j = \lambda_j Q_2 \quad (j=2, \dots, m).$$

*Proof.* By induction on  $j$ . For each polynomial  $Q$  we set

$$\mu(Q) = \{(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_m); Q = \sum_{j=1}^m \mu_j Q_j, n = \sum_{j=1}^m \mu_j, \mu_j \in N \cup \{0\}\}.$$

Put

$$U = \{Q; \sum_{(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_m) \in \mu(Q)} (n! / (\mu_1! \cdots \mu_m!)) c_1^{\mu_1} \cdots c_m^{\mu_m} \neq 0\},$$

$$V_\nu = \{Q; Q = \sum_{j=2}^\nu \mu_j Q_j, n = \sum_{j=2}^\nu \mu_j, \mu_j \in N \cup \{0\} \quad (\nu=2, \dots, m).$$

Then by (2.15)  $U = \{(P_1)^*, -, (P_4)^*\} = \{0, Q_2, Q_{m-1} + (n-1)Q_m, nQ_m\}$ . (2.19) holds trivially for  $j=2$ . Assume that (2.19) holds for  $j=2, \dots, \nu$  ( $\nu < m$ ). Further assume  $Q_{\nu+1} \in V_\nu$ . If  $(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_m) \in \mu(Q_{\nu+1})$ , then there exists an integer  $\rho \geq \nu+1$  such

that  $\mu_\rho \neq 0$ . Since  $Q_{\nu+1} = \sum_{j=2}^m \mu_j Q_j = \sum_{j=2}^m \mu_j Q_j$ , we have  $Q_{\nu+1} - \mu_\rho Q_\rho = \sum_{j=2}^{\rho-1} \mu_j Q_j + \sum_{j=\rho+1}^m \mu_j Q_j$ .

By Lemma 1.1  $0 \leq_2 (\sum_{j=2}^{\rho-1} \mu_j + \sum_{j=\rho+1}^m \mu_j Q_j), (Q_{\nu+1} - \mu_\rho Q_\rho) \leq_2 0$ . Therefore  $\mu_2 = - = \mu_{\rho-1} = 0, \mu_{\rho+1} = - = \mu_m = 0, Q_{\nu+1} = \mu_\rho Q_\rho$ . Hence  $\mu_\rho = 1, \rho = \nu+1$ . Thus

$$\mu(Q_{\nu+1}) = \{(n-1, \underbrace{0}_{\nu-1}, 1, 0, -, -, 0)\}.$$

Therefore  $\#\mu(Q_{\nu+1})=1$ . Thus  $Q_{\nu+1} \in U$ . On the other hand, by (2.16) and (2.18), we have  $B_2 < B_3 \leq B_{\nu+1}, B_{\nu+1} \leq B_m, 0 < B_{m-1}$ . (We assume  $m \geq 3$ .) Therefore  $0 < B_2 < B_{\nu+1} < (B_{m-1} + (n-1)B_m) < nB_m$ . Hence  $Q_{\nu+1} \in U$ . This is a contradiction. Thus  $Q_{\nu+1} \in V_\nu$ . By the induction assumption we have  $V_\nu \subset \{\lambda Q_2; \lambda \in N \cup \{0\}\}$ . Hence there is a positive integer  $\lambda_{\nu+1}$  such that

$$\bar{Q}_{\nu+1} - \lambda_{\nu+1} Q_2$$

Lemma 2.5 is thus proved.

By Lemma 2.5 there are polynomials  $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{R}$  satisfying that

$$f = \mathcal{P}(\exp(Q_2)), \quad f^n = \mathcal{R}(\exp(Q_2)).$$

By Lemma 2.5  $B_m - B_{m-1} = \lambda(B_2 - B_1)$  with  $\lambda = \lambda_m - \lambda_{m-1}$ . Similarly  $B_2 - B_1 = \lambda'(B_m - B_{m-1})$  with a positive integer  $\lambda'$ . Thus  $B_2 - B_1 = B_m - B_{m-1}$ . Therefore from (2.17) we have  $A_4 - A_3 = B_m - B_{m-1} = B_2 - B_1 = A_2 - A_1$ . This implies that, if  $t > 3$ , then  $\mathcal{R}^{(\nu)}(0) = 0$  ( $\nu=2, -, t-2$ ). Therefore  $\mathcal{R}(w) = d_4 w^t + d_3 w^{t-1} + d_2 w + 1$ , where  $t \geq 3$  and  $d_i$ 's are nonzero constants.

LEMMA 2.6. Let  $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{R}$  be polynomials and  $n(\geq 2)$  be an integer such that

$$(2.20) \quad \mathcal{P}^n = \mathcal{R}, \quad \mathcal{R}(w) = d_4 w^t + d_3 w^{t-1} + d_2 w + 1,$$

where  $t \geq 3$  and  $\mathcal{R} \in \mathcal{O}$  for every  $\nu$ . Then there are the following two possibilities:

- (1)  $n=3$  and  $\mathcal{P}(w) = \rho(w - \sigma)$  with  $\rho, \sigma \neq 0$ .
- (2)  $n=2$  and  $\mathcal{P}(w) = \rho'(w^2 + \sqrt{2} \sigma' w - \sigma'^2)$  with  $\rho', \sigma' \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $a$  be a zero of  $\mathcal{P}$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}(a) = \mathcal{R}'(a) = 0$ . This yields

$$(t-1)d_4 d_2 a^2 + ((t-2)d_3 d_2 + t d_4) a + (t-1)d_3 = 0.$$

Therefore  $\mathcal{P}$  has at most two distinct zeros  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$ .

Case 1):  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$ . Put  $\sigma = t\zeta - \alpha_2$ . In this case  $\mathcal{P}(w)^n = \tau(w - \sigma)^{sn} - \mathcal{R}(w)$ , where  $\tau$  is a constant and  $s = \deg \mathcal{P}$ . From (2.20) we have  $t - sn = 3$ . Thus  $s = 1, n = 3$ . Therefore we have the desired result.

Case 2):  $\alpha_1 \neq \alpha_2$ . In this case

$$(2.21) \quad \mathcal{P}(w)^n = \tau'(w - \alpha_1)^u (w - \alpha_2)^v = \mathcal{R}(w)$$

where  $\tau'$  is a constant and  $u, v$  are positive integers. On the other hand, from (2.20), we have

$$(2.22) \quad \mathcal{P}''(w) = \zeta w^{t-3} (w - \eta)$$

with  $\zeta, \eta \neq 0$ . Assume  $n \geq 4$ , then  $2 \leq t$  and  $nv - 2 \geq 2$ . From (2.21), (2.22) we have a contradiction. Thus  $n \leq 3$ . Similarly we have  $u = 1$  or  $v = 1$ . Assume that  $u = 1, v \geq 2$ . Then, from (2.21) and (2.22), we obtain  $n + nv = t, nv - 2 = t - 3$ . Thus  $n = 1$ . This is a contradiction. Similarly  $u = 1$  whenever  $v = 1$ . Thus  $u = v = 1$ . If  $n = 3$  and  $u = v = 1$ , then from (2.21) we have  $t = 6$ . On the other hand (2.21) and (2.22) imply  $t = 4$ . This is a contradiction. Thus  $n = 2, u = v = 1$  and  $t = 4$ . Therefore

$$\mathcal{P}(w) = \rho'(w^2 - (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)w + \alpha_1\alpha_2),$$

where  $\rho'$  is a nonzero constant. Since  $t = 4$ , from (2.20) and (2.21), the coefficient of  $w^2$  of  $\mathcal{P}(w^2)$  is equal to 0. Thus  $(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)^2 + 2\alpha_1\alpha_2 = 0$ . Hence

$$\mathcal{P}(w) = \rho'(w^2 + \sqrt{2} \sigma' w - \sigma'^2),$$

where  $\sigma'$  is a nonzero constant. Lemma 2.6 is thus proved.

Lemma 2.5 and 2.6 complete the proof of Theorem 2.

### 3. Proof of Theorem 3.

Let  $g = (g_0, g_1, g_2)$ , where  $g_j$ 's are entire functions without common zeros. We may assume that  $D_0 = \{w_0 = 0\}, D_1 = \{w_1 = 0\}$ . Let  $P(w_0, w_1, w_2)$  be a homogeneous polynomial of degree two such that  $D_2 = \{P(w_0, w_1, w_2) = 0\}$ . Then, by the assumption, for suitable polynomials  $q_0, q_1, q_2$

$$g_0 = e^{q_0}, \quad g_1 = e^{q_1}, \quad P(g_0, g_1, g_2) = e^{q_2}.$$

Since  $D_0 \cap D_1 \cap D_2 = \emptyset$ , there exist constants  $a_0, a_1, a_2$  ( $a_2 \neq 0$ ),  $b_0, b_1, b_2$  such that  $P(w_0, w_1, w_2) = (a_0 w_0 + a_1 w_1 + a_2 w_2)^2 - (b_0 w_0^2 + b_1 w_1^2 + b_2 w_0 w_1)$ . Since  $D_2$  is not a line, we have  $(b_0, b_1, b_2) \neq (0, 0, 0)$ . Put

$$G = a_0 g_0 + a_1 g_1 + a_2 g_2.$$

Then

$$(3.1) \quad G^2 = b_0 e^{2q_0} + b_1 e^{2q_1} + b_2 e^{(q_0+q_1)} + e^q.$$

If  $q_0 - q_1 = \text{const.}$ , then  $g_0 = c g_1$  with a nonzero constant  $c$ . Thus, in what follows, we assume that  $q_0 - q_1 \neq \text{const.}$ . Further we may assume, without loss of generality, that

$$\deg t f_0 \wedge \deg q_1, \quad C(q_0) \neq C(q_1).$$

If  $ft_{\beta} = ft_{\alpha} = 0$ ,  $b_2 \neq 0$ , then from (3.1)  $G^2 = b_2 e^{2q_0+q_1} + e^q$ . Thus by Lemma 2.3 we have  $G^2 = c e^{2q_0+q_1}$  with a constant  $c$  ( $\neq b_2$ ). Thus

$$(a_0 g_0 + a_1 g_1 + a_2 g_2)^2 = c g_0 g_1, \quad c \neq b_2.$$

Similarly, if  $b_0 = b_2 = 0$ ,  $b_1 \neq 0$ , then  $G^2 = b_1 e^{2q_1} + e^q$ . Thus  $G^2 = c' e^{2q_1}$ ,  $c' \neq b_1$ . Therefore

$$a_0 g_0 + a_1 g_1 + a_2 g_2 = \sqrt{c'} g_1, \quad c' \neq b_1.$$

If  $ft_{\alpha} = ft_{\beta} = 0$ ,  $b_0 \neq 0$ , then  $G^2 = b_0 e^{2q_0} + e^q$ . Thus  $G^2 = c'' e^{2q_0}$ ,  $c'' \neq b_0$ . Therefore

$$a_0 g_0 + a_1 g_1 + a_2 g_2 = \sqrt{c''} g_0, \quad c'' \neq b_0.$$

Thus, in what follows, we assume that  $\#\{j; ft_j = 0, -0, 1, 2\} \leq 1$ .

LEMMA 3.1. *Let*

$$\varphi_0 = b_0 e^{2q_0}, \quad \varphi_1 = b_1 e^{2q_1}, \quad \varphi_2 = b_2 e^{q_0+q_1}, \quad \varphi_3 = e^q.$$

Assume that there exists a subset  $J$  of  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  satisfying  $\#J \geq 2$  and  $\sum_{j \in J} \varphi_j = 0$ . Then there are the following three possibilities

- 1)  $(a_0 g_0 + a_1 g_1 + a_2 g_2)^2 = b_2 g_0 g_1, \quad b_2 \neq 0,$
- 2)  $a_0 g_0 + a_1 g_1 + a_2 g_2 = \sqrt{b_0} g_0, \quad b_0 \neq 0,$
- 3)  $a_0 g_0 + a_1 g_1 + a_2 g_2 = \sqrt{b_1} g_1, \quad b_1 \neq 0.$

*Proof.* We may assume that  $\varphi_j \neq 0$  for all  $j \in J$ . We shall consider the following three cases.

1)  $\#J = 2$ . Put  $J = \{j_2, j_3\}$ . Then by Lemma 2.4  $\varphi_{j_2}/\varphi_{j_3} = \text{const.}$ . If  $j_2, j_3 \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ , then  $q_0 - q_1 = \text{const.}$ . This is a contradiction. Thus we have  $J \ni 3$ . Let  $j_0, j_1$  be integers such that  $\{j_0, j_1\} = \{0, 1, 2\} - J$ . Then from (3.1)  $\varphi_{j_2} + \varphi_{j_3} = 0$ ,  $G^2 = \varphi_{j_0} + \varphi_{j_1}$ . If  $\varphi_{j_0} \neq 0$  and  $\varphi_{j_1} \neq 0$ , then by Lemma 2.3  $\varphi_{j_0}/\varphi_{j_1} = \text{const.}$ . Thus  $q_0 - q_1 = \text{const.}$ . This is a contradiction. Thus  $\varphi_{j_0} = 0$  or  $\varphi_{j_1} = 0$ . Therefore one of the following three cases holds:  $G^2 = b_0 g_0^2$  ( $b_0 \neq 0$ ),  $G^2 = b_1 g_1^2$  ( $b_1 \neq 0$ ),  $G^2 = b_2 g_0 g_1$  ( $b_2 \neq 0$ ). Thus we have the desired result.

2)  $\#J = 3$ . Since  $\#\{0, 1, 2\} \cap J \geq 2$ , by Lemma 2.4 we have  $\varphi_j/\varphi_k = \text{const.}$  for some  $j, k \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . Thus  $q_0 - q_1 = \text{const.}$ . This is a contradiction.

3)  $\#J = 4$ . We may assume, without loss of generality, that  $\sum_{j \in J} \varphi_j \neq 0$  for

any  $J' \subseteq J$  ( $J' \neq \emptyset$ ). Since  $\#\{0, 1, 2\} \cap J \geq 2$ , by Lemma 2.4 we have a contradiction as above.

In what follows, we assume that

$$(3.2) \quad \sum_{j \in J} \varphi_j \neq 0 \quad \text{for any } J \subset \{0, 1, 2, 3\} \text{ satisfying } \#J \geq 2.$$

By Lemma 2.3 and (3.2), we have  $\deg q_0 = \deg q_1 \geq \deg q$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} N &= \deg q_0 = \deg q_1, \\ A_1 &= 2q_0^{(N)}(0)/N!, \quad A_2 = 2q_1^{(N)}(0)/N!, \\ A_3 &= (q_0 + q_1)^{(N)}(0)/N!, \quad A_4 = q^{(N)}(0)/N!. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $A_1 \neq A_2$ ,  $A_3 = (A_1 + A_2)/2$ . Therefore  $\#\{A_j\}_{j=1}^4 = 3$  or  $4$ .

Case 1):  $b_0 b_1 b_2 \neq 0$ . In this case, we shall consider the following two subcases.

Subcase 1.1):  $\#\{A_j\}_{j=1}^4 = 3$ . There are the following three possibilities.

1)  $A_4 = A_1$ . In this case, by Theorem 2,  $G^2 = c e^{2q_0} + b_1 e^{2q_1} + b_2 e^{q_0 + q_1}$  with a constant  $c (\neq b_0)$ . By (3.2) we have  $c \neq 0$ . Therefore, by Theorem 2,  $G = \sqrt{c} e^{q_0} + \sqrt{b_1} e^{q_1}$ . Thus

$$(a_0 - \sqrt{c})g_0 + (a_1 - \sqrt{b_1})g_1 + a_2 g_2 = 0, \quad c \in \{0, b_0\}.$$

2)  $A_4 = A_2$ . In this case we have  $G^2 = b_0 e^{2q_0} + c' e^{2q_1} + b_2 e^{q_0 + q_1}$  with a constant  $c' \in \{0, b_1\}$ . Therefore, by Theorem 2,  $G = \sqrt{b_0} e^{q_0} + \sqrt{c'} e^{q_1}$ . Thus

$$(a_0 - \sqrt{b_0})g_0 + (a_1 - \sqrt{c'})g_1 + a_2 g_2 = 0, \quad c' \in \{0, b_1\}.$$

3)  $A_4 = A_3$ . In this case we have  $G^2 = b_0 e^{2q_0} + b_1 e^{2q_1} + c'' e^{q_0 + q_1}$  with a constant  $c'' \in \{0, b_2\}$ . Therefore, by Theorem 2,  $G = \sqrt{b_0} e^{q_0} + \sqrt{b_1} e^{q_1}$ . Thus

$$(a_0 - \sqrt{b_0})g_0 + (a_1 - \sqrt{b_1})g_1 + a_2 g_2 = 0.$$

Subcase 1.2):  $\#\{A_j\}_{j=1}^4 = 4$ . In this case, by Theorem 2,  $G = e^P (e^{2Q} + \sqrt{2} \sigma e^Q - \sigma^2)$  with polynomials  $P, Q$  and a nonzero constant  $\sigma$ . Thus, by Lemma 2.4 and (3.1), we have  $\{A_1, \dots, A_4\} = \{2\alpha, 2\alpha + \beta, 2\alpha + 3\beta, 2\alpha + 4\beta\}$ , where  $\alpha = P^{(N)}(0)/N!$ ,  $\beta = Q^{(N)}(0)/N!$ . This contradicts  $A_1 \neq A_2$ ,  $A_3 = (A_1 + A_2)/2$  (see Figure 9).

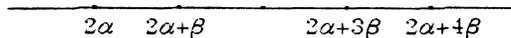


Fig. 9.

Case 2):  $b_0 = 0$ ,  $b_1 b_2 \neq 0$ . In this case

$$(3.3) \quad G^2 = b_1 e^{2q_1} + b_2 e^{(q_0 + q_1)} + e^q.$$

By Lemma 2.3 and (3.2), we have  $A_2 \neq A_3 \neq A_4$ . Therefore, by Theorem 2, we see that there are the following three possibilities.

1)  $G = \sqrt{b_1} e^{q_1} + d e^{q/2}$  ( $d \in \{\pm 1\}$ ). We have  $(G - \sqrt{b_1} e^{q_1})^2 = e^q$ . Therefore by (3.3)  $2\sqrt{b_1}G - 2b_1 e^{q_1} - b_2 e^{q_0} = 0$ . Thus

$$(2\sqrt{b_1}a_0 - b_2)g_0 + 2(\sqrt{b_1}a_1 - b_1)g_1 + 2\sqrt{b_1}a_2g_2 = 0.$$

2)  $G = \sqrt{b_2} e^{(q_0 + q_1)/2} + d' e^{q/2}$  ( $d' \in \{\pm 1\}$ ). Since  $b_1 e^{2q_1} = 2d' \sqrt{b_2} e^{(q_0 + q_1 + q)/2}$ , we have  $e^q = (b_1^2 / (4b_2)) e^{3q_1 - q_0}$ . Therefore, from (3.3),  $G^2 = b_1 e^{2q_1} + b_2 e^{(q_0 + q_1)} + (b_1^2 / (4b_2)) \cdot e^{3q_1 - q_0}$ . Thus  $G^2 e^{q_0} = ((b_1^2 / (4b_2)) e^{2q_1} + b_1 e^{(q_0 + q_1)} + b_2 e^{2q_0}) e^{q_1} = ((b_1 / (2\sqrt{b_2})) e^{q_1} + \sqrt{b_2} e^{q_0})^2 e^{q_1}$ . Therefore

$$4b_2g_0(a_0g_0 + a_1g_1 + a_2g_2)^2 = (2b_2g_0 + b_1g_1)^2 g_1.$$

3)  $G = \sqrt{b_1} e^{q_1} + \sqrt{b_2} e^{(q_0 + q_1)/2}$ . We have  $(G - \sqrt{b_1} e^{q_1})^2 = b_2 e^{q_0 + q_1}$ . Thus

$$(a_0g_0 + (a_1 - \sqrt{b_1})g_1 + a_2g_2)^2 = b_2g_0g_1.$$

Case 3):  $b_2 = 0$ ,  $b_0b_1 \neq 0$ . In this case

$$G^2 = b_0 e^{2q_0} + b_1 e^{2q_1} + e^q.$$

There are the following three possibilities as above.

1)  $G = \sqrt{b_0} e^{q_0} + \sqrt{b_1} e^{q_1}$ . We have

$$(a_0 - \sqrt{b_0})g_0 + (a_1 - \sqrt{b_1})g_1 + a_2g_2 = 0.$$

2)  $G = \sqrt{b_0} e^{q_0} + d e^{q/2}$  ( $d \in \{\pm 1\}$ ). We have  $(G - \sqrt{b_0} e^{q_0})^2 = e^q = G^2 - b_0 e^{2q_0} - b_1 e^{2q_1}$ . Thus  $2\sqrt{b_0}G e^{q_0} = 2b_0 e^{2q_0} + b_1 e^{2q_1}$ . Therefore

$$2\sqrt{b_0}g_0(a_0g_0 + a_1g_1 + a_2g_2) = 2b_0g_0^2 + b_1g_1^2.$$

3)  $G = \sqrt{b_1} e^{q_1} + d' e^{q/2}$  ( $d' \in \{\pm 1\}$ ). We have

$$2\sqrt{b_1}g_1(a_0g_0 + a_1g_1 + a_2g_2) = b_0g_0^2 + 2b_1g_1^2.$$

Case 4):  $b_1 = 0$ ,  $b_0b_2 \neq 0$ . In this case there are the following three possibilities as in Case 2).

1)  $G = \sqrt{b_0} e^{q_0} + d e^{q/2}$  ( $d \in \{\pm 1\}$ ). We have

$$2(\sqrt{b_0}a_0 - b_0)g_0 + (2\sqrt{b_0}a_1 - b_2)g_1 + 2\sqrt{b_0}a_2g_2 = 0.$$

2)  $G = \sqrt{b_2} e^{(q_0 + q_1)/2} + d' e^{q/2}$  ( $d' \in \{\pm 1\}$ ). We have

$$4b_2g_1(a_0g_0 + a_1g_1 + a_2g_2)^2 = (b_0g_0 + 2b_2g_1)^2 g_0.$$

3)  $G = \sqrt{b_0} e^{a_0} + \sqrt{b_2} e^{(a_0 + a_1)^2}$ . We have

$$((a_0 - \sqrt{b_0})g_0 + a_1 g_1 + a_2 g_2)^2 = b_2 g_0 g_1.$$

Theorem 3 is thus proved.

4. Proof of Theorem 4.

Let  $g = (g_0, g_1, g_2, g_3)$ , where  $g_j$ 's are entire functions without common zeros. Then, for suitable polynomials  $q_0, q_1, q_2, q$ ,

$$g_0 = e^{q_0}, \quad g_1 = e^{q_1}, \quad g_2 = e^{q_2}, \quad g_0^n + g_1^n + g_2^n + g_3^n = e^q.$$

Thus

$$(4.1) \quad g_3^n = e^q - e^{nq_0} - e^{nq_1} - e^{nq_2}.$$

Put

$$q_{-1} = (q + i\pi)/n.$$

Then

$$(4.2) \quad g_3^n = - \sum_{j=-1}^2 \exp(nq_j).$$

LEMMA 4.1. Assume that there exists a subset  $J (\neq \emptyset)$  of  $\{-1, 0, 1, 2\}$  satisfying

$$\sum_{j \in J} \exp(nq_j) = 0.$$

Then  $g$  has the reduced representation  $(h_0, h_1, h_2, h_3)$  such that  $\{h_j\}_{j=0}^3 = \{a_0, \text{fli}, a_2, e^P\}$  or  $\{h_j\}_{j=0}^3 = \{a_0, a_1, a_2 e^P, \text{fls}^{\wedge P}\}$ , where  $a_j$ 's are constants and  $P$  is a polynomial.

*Proof.* Since  $\#J \geq 2$ , we shall consider the following three cases.

1)  $\#J = 2$ . Put  $J = \{j_{-1}, j_0\}$ . Let  $j_1, j_2$  be integers such that  $\{j_1, j_2\} = \{-1, 0, 1, 2\} - J$ . Then from (4.2)

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(nq_{j_{-1}}) + \exp(nq_{j_0}) &= 0, \\ g_3^n &= -\exp(nq_{j_1}) - \exp(nq_{j_2}). \end{aligned}$$

Then by Lemma 2.3 and 2.4

$$(q_{j_{-1}})^* = (q_{j_0})^*, \quad \text{te.}_{j_1} = (\wedge_{j_2})^*, \quad g_3 = c \exp(q_{j_1}),$$

where  $(p)^*(z) = p(z) - p(0)$  for each polynomial  $p$ , and  $c$  is a constant. Since  $g$  is not a constant,  $(q_{j_{-1}})^* \neq (q_{j_1})^*$ . Thus we have the desired result.

2)  $\#J = 3$ . Put  $J = \{j_{-1}, j_0, j_1\}$ . Let  $j_2$  be an integer such that  $\{j_2\} = \{-1, 0, 1, 2\} - J$ . Then from (4.2)

$$\exp(nq_{j_{-1}}) + \exp(nq_{j_0}) + \exp(nq_{j_1}) = 0, \quad g_3^n = -\exp(nq_{j_2}).$$

Thus by Lemma 2.4

$$g_3 = c \exp(nq_{j_2})$$

with a constant  $c$ . Since  $g$  is not a constant,  $(q_{j_{-1}})^* \neq (q_{j_2})^*$ . Thus we have the desired result.

3)  $\#J=4$ . In this case we may assume, without loss of generality, that  $\sum_{j \in J'} \exp(nq_j) \neq 0$  for any  $J' \subseteq \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}$  ( $J' \neq \emptyset$ ). Then from (4.2)

$$\exp(nq_{j_{-1}}) + \cdots + \exp(nq_{j_2}) = 0, \quad g_3^n = 0.$$

Thus by Lemma 2.4

$$(q_{j_{-1}})^* = \cdots = (q_{j_2})^*, \quad g_3 = 0.$$

Thus  $g$  is a constant. This is a contradiction. Lemma 4.1 is thus proved.

If  $n \geq 4$ , then by Theorem 2  $\sum_{j \in J} \exp(nq_j) = 0$  for some  $J \subset \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}$  ( $J \neq \emptyset$ ).

Therefore, in this case, Theorem 4 follows from Lemma 4.1. Thus, in what follows, we assume that  $n \leq 3$  and

$$(4.3) \quad \sum_{j \in J} \exp(nq_j) \neq 0 \quad \text{for any } J \subset \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}, \quad J \neq \emptyset.$$

Since  $g$  is not a constant,  $q_j - q_k \neq \text{const.}$  for some  $j, k \in \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}$  with  $j \neq k$ . We have the following two cases.

Case 1):  $q_j - q_k = \text{const.}$  for some  $j, k \in \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}$  with  $j \neq k$ . In this case, by Theorem 2, we have  $n=2$ . We shall consider the following two sub-cases.

Subcase 1.1):  $q_{-1} - q_{j_0} = \text{const.}$  for some  $j_0 \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . Let  $j_1, j_2$  be integers such that  $\{j_1, j_2\} = \{0, 1, 2\} - \{j_0\}$ . From (4.1) we have

$$g_3^2 = b \exp(2q_{j_0}) - \exp(2q_{j_1}) - \exp(2q_{j_2})$$

with a constant  $b (\neq -1)$ . By (4.3) we have  $b \neq 0$ . Then, by Theorem 2, there are the following three possibilities.

1)  $g_3 = \sqrt{b} \exp(q_{j_0}) + id \exp(q_{j_1})$  ( $d \in \{\pm 1\}$ ). In this case we have  $-\exp(2q_{j_2}) = 2id \sqrt{b} \exp(q_{j_0} + q_{j_1})$ . Thus

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{b} g_{j_0} + id g_{j_1} - g_3 = 0 \\ ig_{j_2}^2 - 2d \sqrt{b} g_{j_0} g_{j_1} = 0, \end{cases} \quad b \in \{0, -1\}.$$

2)  $g_3 = \sqrt{b} \exp(q_{j_0}) + id' \exp(q_{j_2})$  ( $d' \in \{+1\}$ ). In this case we have  $-\exp(2q_{j_1}) = 2id' \sqrt{b} \exp(q_{j_0} + q_{j_2})$ . Thus

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{b} g_{j_0} + id' g_{j_2} - g_3 = 0 \\ ig_{j_1}^2 - 2d' \sqrt{b} g_{j_0} g_{j_2} = 0, \end{cases} \quad b \in \{0, -1\}.$$

3)  $g_3 = id'' \exp(q_{j_1}) + id''' \exp(q_{j_2})$ ,  $d'' \in \{+1\}$ . In this case we have  $b \exp(2q_{j_0}) = -2d'' d''' \exp(q_{j_1} + q_{j_2})$ . Thus

$$\begin{cases} id'' g_{j_1} + id''' g_{j_2} - g_3 = 0 \\ bg_{j_0}^2 + 2d'' d''' g_{j_1} g_{j_2} = 0, \end{cases} \quad \text{fteMO, } -1\}.$$

*Subcase 1.2):*  $q_{j_0} - q_{j_1} = \text{const.}$  for some  $j_0, j_1 \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  with  $j_0 \neq j_1$ . Let  $j_2$  be an integer such that  $\{j_2\} = \{0, 1, 2\} - \{j_0, j_1\}$ . Then  $-\exp(2q_{j_0}) - \exp(2q_{j_1}) = c \exp(2q_{j_2})$  with a constant  $c (\neq -1)$ . By (4.3) we have  $c \neq 0$ . Thus  $g_{j_0} = \sqrt{-1-c} g_{j_1}$ . Further from (4.1)

$$g_3^2 = c \exp(2q_{j_1}) - \exp(2q_{j_2}) + \exp(q).$$

Thus, by Case 3) in Section 3, there are the following three possibilities:

- 1)  $\begin{cases} -\sqrt{c} g_{j_1} - \sqrt{-1} g_{j_2} + g_3 = 0 \\ g_{j_0} - \sqrt{-1-c} g_{j_1} = 0, \end{cases} \quad c \in \{0, -1\},$
- 2)  $\begin{cases} 2\sqrt{c} g_{j_1} g_{j_2} - 2c g_{j_1}^2 + g_{j_2}^2 = 0 \\ g_{j_0} - \sqrt{-1-c} g_{j_1} = 0, \end{cases} \quad c \in \{0, -1\},$
- 3)  $\begin{cases} 2\sqrt{-1} g_{j_2} g_{j_3} - c g_{j_1}^2 + 2g_{j_2}^2 = 0 \\ g_{j_0} - \sqrt{-1-c} g_{j_1} = 0, \end{cases} \quad c \in \{0, -1\}.$

*Case 2):*  $q_j - q_k \neq \text{const.}$  for every  $j, k \in \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}$  with  $j \neq k$ . In this case, by Theorem 2, we have  $n = 2, 3$ .

*Subcase 2.1):*  $n = 2$ . In this case we have

$$g_3^2 = e^q - e^{2q_0} - e^{2q_1} - e^{2q_2}.$$

By Theorem 2

$$g_3 = e^P (e^{2Q} + \sqrt{2} \sigma e^Q - \sigma^2),$$

where  $P, Q$  are polynomials and  $\sigma$  is a nonzero constant. Thus by Lemma 2.4

$$\{e^q, -e^{2q_0}, -e^{2q_1}, -e^{2q_2}\} = \{e^{2P+4Q}, 2\sqrt{2} \sigma e^{2P+3Q}, -2\sqrt{2} \sigma^3 e^{2P+Q}, \sigma^4 e^{2P}\}.$$

We may assume  $e^q = e^{2Q+4P}$  or  $e^q = 2\sqrt{2} \sigma e^{2P+3Q}$ . Let  $(j_0, j_1, j_2)$  be the permutation of  $(0, 1, 2)$  which satisfies

$$-\exp(2q_{j_0}) = \sigma^4 e^{2P}, \quad -\exp(2q_{j_1}) = -2\sqrt{2} \sigma^3 e^{2P+Q}.$$

We may assume  $g_{j_0} \equiv i$ . Then  $\sigma^4 e^{2P} \equiv 1$ . Put

$$p=Q-\log \sigma .$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} g_3 &= d_3(e^{2p} + \sqrt{2}e^p - 1), & \{e^q, -\exp(2q_{j_2})\} &= \{e^{4p}, 2\sqrt{2}e^{3p}\}, \\ & & -\exp(2q_{j_1}) &= -2\sqrt{2}e^p, \end{aligned}$$

where  $d_3 \in \{\pm 1\}$ . Now we have the following two cases.

1)  $e^q = e^{4p}$ . In this case we have  $-\exp(2q_{j_2}) = 2\sqrt{2}e^{3p}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} g_{j_0} &= i, & g_{j_1} &= d_1(2\sqrt{2})^{1/2}e^{p/2}, \\ g_{j_2} &= id_2(2\sqrt{2})^{1/2}e^{3p/2}, & g_3 &= d_3(e^{2p} + \sqrt{2}e^p - 1), \end{aligned}$$

where  $d_1, d_2 \in \{\pm 1\}$ . Therefore

$$\begin{cases} 2\sqrt{2}g_{j_0}^2 + \sqrt{2}g_{j_1}^2 + i2\sqrt{2}d_3g_{j_0}g_3 - id_1d_2g_{j_1}g_{j_2} = 0 \\ g_{j_1}^3 - i\sqrt{2}d_1d_2g_{j_0}^2g_{j_2} = 0. \end{cases}$$

2)  $e^q = 2\sqrt{2}e^{3p}$ . In this case we have  $-\exp(2q_{j_2}) = e^{4p}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} g_{j_0} &= i, & g_{j_1} &= d_1(2\sqrt{2})^{1/2}e^{p/2}, \\ g_{j_2} &= id_2e^{2p}, & g_3 &= d_3(e^{2p} + \sqrt{2}e^p - 1), \end{aligned}$$

where  $d_1, d_2 \in \{\pm 1\}$ . Therefore

$$\begin{cases} 2g_{j_0}^2 + g_{j_1}^2 - id_2g_{j_0}g_{j_2} + i2d_3g_{j_0}g_3 = 0 \\ g_{j_1}^4 - 8d_2g_{j_0}^3g_{j_2} = 0. \end{cases}$$

*Subcase 2.2):*  $n=3$ . In this case we have

$$g_3^3 = e^q - e^{3q_0} - e^{3q_1} - e^{3q_2}.$$

By Theorem 2

$$g_3 = e^P(1 + e^Q)$$

with polynomials  $P, Q$ . Thus by Lemma 2.4

$$\{e^q, -e^{3q_0}, -e^{3q_1}, -e^{3q_2}\} = \{e^{3P+3Q}, 3e^{3P+2Q}, 3e^{3P+Q}, e^{3P}\}.$$

We may assume  $e^q = e^{3P+3Q}$  or  $e^q = 3e^{3P+2Q}$ . Let  $(j_0, j_1, j_2)$  be the permutation of  $(0, 1, 2)$  which satisfies

$$-\exp(3q_{j_0}) = e^{3P}, \quad -\exp(3q_{j_1}) = 3e^{3P+Q}.$$

We may assume  $g_{j_0} \equiv -1$ . Then  $e^{3P} \equiv 1$  and

$$g_3 = \omega_3(1 + e^Q), \quad \{e^q, -\exp(3q_{j_2})\} = \{e^{3Q}, 3e^{2Q}\}, \quad -\exp(3q_{j_1}) = 3e^Q,$$

where  $\omega_3 \in \{1, e^{\pm i2\pi/3}\}$ . We have the following two cases.

1)  $e^a=e^{3q}$ . In this case  $-\exp(3q_{j_2})=3e^{2q}$ . Thus

$$g_{j_0}=-1, \quad g_{j_1}=\sqrt[3]{3}\omega_1e^{q/3}, g_{j_2}=\sqrt[3]{3}\omega_2e^{2q/3}, \quad g_3=\omega_3(1+e^q),$$

where  $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \{-1, e^{\pm i\pi/3}\}$ . Thus

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt[3]{9}\omega_1\omega_2g_{j_0}^2+\sqrt[3]{9}\omega_1\omega_2\omega_3^2g_{j_0}g_3+g_{j_1}g_{j_2}=0 \\ \omega_1\omega_2g_{j_1}^2-\sqrt[3]{3}g_{j_0}g_{j_2}=0. \end{cases}$$

2)  $e^a=3e^{2q}$ . In this case  $-\exp(3q_{j_2})=e^{3q}$ . Thus

$$g_{j_0}=-1, \quad g_{j_1}=\sqrt[3]{3}\omega_1e^{q/3}, \quad g_{j_2}=\omega_2e^q, \quad g_3=\omega_3(1+e^q),$$

where  $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \{-1, e^{\pm i\pi/3}\}$ . Thus

$$\begin{cases} \omega_2g_{j_0}-g_{j_2}+\omega_2\omega_3^2g_3=0 \\ \omega_2g_{j_1}^3+3g_{j_0}^2g_{j_2}=0. \end{cases}$$

Theorem 4 is this proved.

#### REFERFNCES

- [1] M. GREEN, On the functional equation  $f^2=e^{2\varphi_1+e^{2\varphi_2}+e^{2\varphi_3}}$  and a new Picard theorem, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* 195 (1974), 223-230.
- [2] W. K. HAYMAN, *Meromorphic Functions*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1964.
- [3] R. Nevanlinna, *Analytic Functions*, Springer, 1970.
- [4] J. F. RITT, Algebraic combinations of exponentials, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* 31 (1929), 654-679.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS,  
TOKYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY,  
OH-OKAYAMA, MEGURO-KU, TOKYO, 152, JAPAN